

Doctor in Shatila refugee camp appeals for international help

BEIRUT (AP) — A trapped Canadian doctor appealed for international humanitarian help to "break the slow torture" of 5,000 Palestinians besieged in Beirut's Shatila refugee camp.

"The camp is slowly going from hunger to starvation. There were three incidents of cats being roasted about a month ago, just before the first U.N. (relief) shipment came in," the doctor, Chris Giannou, 38, of Toronto, told the Associated Press in a radio-telephone interview.

"We only have enough food for the camp for another four or five days and that's it," Dr. Giannou said.

Militiamen of the mainstream Shi'ite Muslim Amal Movement have been besieging Shatila for the past four months, preventing the inhabitants from leaving the small, devastated shantytown.

"The people of Shatila are very cold, hungry, frustrated and worried," said Dr. Giannou, the only surgeon at the camp hospital. Syrian-backed Amal has been engaged in an intermittent war with the Palestinians for the control of refugee camps in Beirut and South Lebanon since May 1981. At least 1,600 people have been killed and 3,600 wounded.

The current round of fighting which broke out last Nov. 24 at

Shatila and the nearby Bourj Al Barajneh camp has been the longest and fiercest.

Amal partially eased its siege of Bourj Al Barajneh last month, after the camp's 20,000 refugees were reported to have eaten cats, dogs, rats and mules. It allowed only the women and children to go out to search for food.

At least 38 Palestinians have been killed and 127 wounded in sporadic skirmishes around Shatila and Bourj Al Barajneh since 7,500 Syrian troops deployed in Muslim West Beirut on Feb. 22 to end a week of factional fighting that killed 300 people and wounded 1,300.

An official of the popular Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine who requested anonymity, said the Palestinian fatalities included 25 women killed by Amal snipers who have been "hunting them down one by one" since the Shi'ite militia permitted "some" of Bourj Al Barajneh's women to leave.

Dr. Giannou said Shatila's population "would like very much the Syrians to extend their

security plan to the immediate neighbourhood of the camp to enforce a cease-fire and open the road to the camp."

A complete end to the camps war is unforeseen, at least in the near future, as long as the conflict continued between Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat and Syrian President Hafez Assad, PLO sources said. Mr. Assad opposes Mr. Arafat's leadership of the PLO.

"Syria cannot reach a solution in Lebanon without the PLO. Therefore, the camps war must be solved between (Brig. Gen. Ghazi) Kenaan and the Palestine National Salvation Front (PNSF)," said a senior Palestinian commander of Fatah, Mr. Arafat's mainstream commando faction.

Gen. Kenaan is Syria's military intelligence chief in Lebanon. The PNSF is an alliance of six Damascus-based guerrilla factions opposed to Mr. Arafat.

The Syrians have not deployed in the predominantly Shi'ite neighbourhoods south of Beirut, where the refugee camps are. But the fighting near the camps has eased and a few truckloads of U.N.-donated food supplies have been allowed in.

"We have received three ship-

ments of foodstuff, but they are insufficient," Dr. Giannou complained. He spoke of shortages in flour, milk, rice, sugar, fuel oil, gasoline, and medical supplies in the camp's only hospital.

Shatila refugees were "literally burning their homes, or what is left of them, in order to keep warm and to bake a few loaves of bread," he added.

He warned that if the Shatila siege continued for another two or three weeks, "The refugees will burst out despite the risk of death."

A spokesman for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, based in Damascus, said it would be impossible to restore stability in the camps and their surroundings "as long as Amal's military presence continues."

"We will not allow anyone to humiliate the Palestinian people as long as the Syrian forces are in Beirut," said the spokesman, code-named Abu Fadi.

Gen. Kenaan says the camp siege will be called off if the Palestinians withdraw from a string of villages seized on Nov. 28 from Amal near Sidon 40 kilometres south of Beirut.

The Palestinians have pulled back from the villages, but they refuse to relinquish a stretch of terrain overlooking refugee camps in the Sidon region.

China reportedly helps Iran develop new missiles

LONDON (R) — Iran has produced a short-range surface-to-surface missile with technological help from China and is working with Peking on a longer-range missile capable of hitting most areas of Iraq, the Observer newspaper said Sunday.

The British Sunday paper, quoting Iranian sources, said the shorter-range missile was based on a Chinese version of the Soviet-made Frog and had been fired at the Iraqi port of Basra. The missile has a range of 64 kilometres.

The other type, similar to the Soviet army's Scud B with a range of 200 kilometres is at an advanced stage of development, according to the Observer.

The development of a longer-range weapon would enable Iran to strike at many towns and cities on the territory of its relatively small neighbour.

Last week, Iran sent shock waves throughout the Gulf by acknowledging that it had acquired Chinese-made missiles capable of hitting tankers carrying crude oil from Arab countries to the West.

The United States responded by announcing it was moving warships into the Straits of Hormuz — the entrance to the Gulf — to ensure the free flow of oil to the West.

Iran said it would use its Silk-worm anti-ship missile against shipping in the waterway only if Iraqi air and missile raids prevented it from exporting oil.

The Silk-worms are large mobile missiles with a range of 96 kilometres, which can carry a warhead of 450 kilograms.

Family banned from visiting Vanunu

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli authorities banned prison visits from the family of a former nuclear technician charged with treason because he smeared shaving cream on a closed circuit camera in his cell, two Israeli attorneys said Sunday.

Amnon Zichrony and Avigdor Feldman told the Associated Press that Mordechai Vanunu's brother, Albert, called each one separately and asked for their help in lifting the ban.

Albert Vanunu told the lawyers prison authorities imposed the ban because Vanunu smeared shaving cream over the camera intended to monitor his movements. Zichrony said the camera was installed because authorities feared Vanunu might try to commit suicide.

Syria-Iran alliance 'in jeopardy'

By Ed Blanche
Associated Press

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Syria apparently has delayed plans to invade the Beirut stronghold of Iranian-backed Shi'ite fundamentalists, but Damascus' alliance with Tehran still looks shaky.

Well-placed Arab sources said Syrian forces plan to take over Beirut's teeming southern slums where the fundamentalist Hizbollah, or Party of God, has its bastion.

"The major sticking point right now is the foreign hostages who are almost certainly held in the southern suburbs," stressed one source, who requested anonymity as did others who spoke on the matter.

Hizbollah evacuated its main base in the Basta district of mainly Muslim West Beirut when the Syrians moved in on Feb. 22 to quell factional fighting.

Eyewitnesses reported seeing more than 20 people, their heads covered by black hoods, being led out of the building and driven away in vans by gunmen.

The prisoners, taken out in four groups of six or seven people, were believed to include some of the 25 foreigners missing and believed kidnapped in Lebanon since March, 1981, the sources said.

They stressed that Brig. Gen. Ghazi Kenaan, Syria's military intelligence chief in Lebanon, was expected to order his men into the Shi'ite shantytowns once he has pinpointed where the hostages are being held.

The sources reported that the Syrians have assured Lebanon's Christian President, Amin Gemayel, they will push into Hizbollah's sanctuary "in due time."

Eliminating the threat of Shi'ite fundamentalism is one of the Christians' conditions for cooperating with Syria in efforts to end Lebanon's 12-year-old civil war.

A Syrian thrust into south Beirut would likely deal a death blow to the Damascus-Tehran alliance, an uneasy relationship at best. Secular Syria has little in common with the fundamentalist government in Tehran.

Ending the alliance also would signal a major realignment in the Arab World. It would give momentum to efforts by moderate countries, such as Saudi Arabia, to neutralize the Shi'ite threat.

It will be fair to say a gradual increase in temperature is expected, with southerly moderate winds. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea.

Supreme Court President Justice Meir Shamgar, who presided at the three-hour appeal hearing, was also expected to rule on a defence request to postpone trial proceedings pending a decision on the bias claims.

But the trial was scheduled to proceed as usual Monday, and a

stalled the Middle East peace process.

Syria and Libya have been Iran's key Arab allies in the 6½-year-old Gulf war against Iraq, Syria's longtime rival in the Arab World.

The breakup of that triangular alliance would leave Iran with no Arab allies. Libya's Col. Muammar Qadhafi has also in recent months been distancing himself from Tehran, declaring the Gulf war is "madness," and urging Tehran to accept Iraqi peace offers.

"Assad's efforts to pacify Lebanon and bring it firmly under his wing will not be complete until he disarms Hizbollah and doing that will be the end of his relationship with Iran," one of the sources stressed.

Tehran has bitterly criticised Mr. Assad's intervention in Beirut with 7,500 crack troops, nearly 300 tanks and armoured vehicles and a small army of intelligence agents.

Significantly, the Syrian force includes a 700-man commando unit used to crush fundamentalist rebels in the Syrian city of Hama in 1982.

Three of the Syrians' most feared Special Forces officers, Col. Hisham Al Mouallaq, Col. Ali Deeb and Col. Abdul Hamid Sultan, who commanded the Hama operations, also are believed to be in Beirut now.

Mr. Assad did not inform the Iranians of the Syrian intervention in advance, the sources said. But he did advise the Americans — a slap in the face for Iran. Mr. Assad also told Saudi Arabia through Rafik Hariri, a Lebanese-born Saudi and a close friend of King Fahd, the sources said.

The Saudis have been trying to wean Syria away from Iran to isolate Tehran in the Gulf war that increasingly is destabilising the strategic Gulf region.

The Saudis have promised financial aid for Mr. Assad — which he needs — but they want Syria to curb the Shi'ites who seek to set up a second Islamic Republic in Lebanon.

The Saudis also pledged that if Iran cuts off oil supplies to Syria, they and the Kuwaitis would make up the loss.

The Damascus-Tehran alliance has been showing signs of strain in recent months.

In the last year, Syria imported only 1 million tons of oil under a 1981 agreement with Iran. It has not touched another 5 million

tons available under the deal. Syria has objected to paying the contract price for that of \$2.50 below the 1983 level of \$2 a barrel, but well above today's market price.

At the same time, the Iranians have bitterly complained about Syria's failure to pay \$2.3-billion it owes Tehran.

Iran's attacks in southern Iraq have further undermined the alliance. Mr. Assad has repeatedly said that even though he is at odds with Iraq, Syria will not tolerate Iranian occupation of Arab soil.

Like most Arabs, Mr. Assad fears the spread of revolutionary Shi'ite fundamentalism and does not want to see it flourish in his own backyard.

While Syria supported Iraq against Iran, Tehran was prepared to allow Syria to be the main power broker in Lebanon. But the Iranians don't need the Syrians to the same degree the once did.

China's emergence as a major arms supplier means Tehran does not have to rely on Syria as a conduit for weapons.

The sources said that when the alarmed Iranians sent Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati to Damascus on Feb. 23, the day after the Syrians rumbled into Beirut, Mr. Assad bluffed to Iran he wanted French and German hostages freed in return to not moving against Hizbollah.

The Iranians refused. The next day, Mr. Assad's troops killed 2 Hizbollah members holed up near the evacuated Basta headquarters, in what was seen as a clear signal to Tehran.

Iran retaliated by warning Mr. Assad that if he did not rein in his troops "he would start getting hostages — in coffins," the sources said.

"Iran is blackmailing Syria with the hostages," one informant noted.

Mr. Assad wants to impress the West by freeing hostages to refute allegations Syria has sponsored international attacks.

The United States and Western countries imposed diplomatic and economic sanctions against Syria in November, but have been quietly restoring links in hopes Syrian help in freeing the hostages.

Lebanon is the key to Syria's regional ambitions and if Mr. Assad fails to curb Hizbollah's rising power there, his strategic aims, already unraveling, are likely to slip from his grasp.

Greek-Turkish row eases but continental shelf problem stays

ATHENS (Agencies) — The threat of a clash between Greece and Turkey over oil exploration dispute over the extent of each country's continental shelf remains.

The continental shelf row and the presence of Turkish troops in northern Cyprus have been straining Greek-Turkish relations for several years.

The Aegean dispute has assumed added significance because of the oil wealth under the seabed.

The latest crisis eased after a Turkish research ship prospecting for oil in the Aegean stayed within Turkish waters Saturday and did not sail into the disputed area as had been initially planned.

Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu then withdrew a request to the United States to close down its telecommunications base north of Athens.

As the crisis intensified on Friday, a Turkish ship was reported to have flown over oil rights in the Aegean. A similar crisis in 1976 again brought them to the brink of war.

Greece says the 2,500 islands in the Aegean — all but two of which it owns — have their own seabed and that this is backed up by the Law of the Sea and a 1958 Geneva Convention, neither of which Turkey has signed.

Athens has also declared that

international law gives it the right to extend the limit of its territorial waters to 12 miles from the current six. Turkey says this would be a cause for war.

In a speech to the cabinet on Friday, Mr. Papandreu accused Turkey of wanting to split the Aegean in half by threatening to conduct oil exploration in what he called the Greek continental shelf.

Mr. Papandreu has proposed to Ankara several times that they settle the continental shelf dispute at the International Court of Justice at the Hague. Turkey accuses Athens of attaching unacceptable preconditions to the proposal.

The latest row erupted after Greece said last month it planned to search for oil east of Thassos Island and Turkey announced it would conduct oil exploration round three Greek islands off its coast.

Greece announced its drilling plans after tabling a bill in parliament which would enable it to take control of a Canadian-led consortium operating off Thassos.

The consortium, North Aegean Petroleum Co. (NAPC) produces about 27,000 barrels of oil per day and sells most of it to the Greek state.

Turkey accused Greece of breaching the 1976 Bern Agreement under which both sides agreed to maintain the status quo in the Aegean until the continental shelf dispute was solved.

Athens says the accord became

inactive after the Turks abandoned negotiations in 1981. Ankara accuses Greece of breaking off the talks but says the agreement still stands.

Mr. Papandreu, who has maintained a tough stance against Turkey in his six years in office, has refused to negotiate with Ankara on bilateral disputes until it recognises Greek rights in the Aegean and withdraws its troops from northern Cyprus.

Greeks relaxed in bright spring sunshine Sunday as tension eased after a two-day confrontation with Turkey which threatened to plunge both countries into war.

"In the end only the superpowers were actually attacked," was the rueful comment of Kathimerini newspaper.

Greeks also made a tour of the banks, drawing out large amounts of cash for fear banks would close if hostilities broke out.

Some newspapers said Greece had emerged as winner from the crisis. "Turks with tails between their legs," said a headline in the pro-government Ethnos newspaper.

Other newspapers said the long-term dangers of the row with Turkey remained. The pro-government to Vima said: "There are hopes for peace, but with a finger on the trigger."

Fears of an outbreak of fighting between the two sides was greatest in the Aegean islands near Turkey where extra Greek army, navy and air force units were sent, according to unofficial accounts.

There was no fresh government statement on the Aegean Sunday but diplomats said there would probably be a cooling-off period in which both sides kept a close watch on each other's activities.

Ozal returns to Ankara

Meanwhile Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal returned home to a jubilant welcome Sunday after heart surgery in the United States as Turkey celebrated the end of its Aegean confrontation with Greece.

Speaking from the steps of the private plane that brought him home from a stopover in London, Mr. Ozal referred only in passing to "that famous crisis saga" and said: "We turned the issue to our advantage."

Sheep were slaughtered in traditional Turkish greeting for an honoured guest as Mr. Ozal boarded a flower-decked bus for the crawl into Ankara along a route lined by thousands of cheering supporters of his conservative Motherland Party.

Mr. Ozal, 59, underwent a triple heart bypass operation in Houston, Texas, on Feb. 10 and on Sunday looked a little tired, though much slimmer than when he left Turkey 55 days ago.

The Turkish research ship Sismik 1, whose voyage was at the centre of the Aegean row, continued Sunday to take soundings for possible oil under the seabed. But it stayed in Turkish waters and its warship escort was pulled back.

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel. 73111-19	
PROGRAMME ONE	
15:30	Koran
15:50	Programme Review
16:30	
Scientific programme for children	
16:55	Tout le monde
17:00	Different Smiles
17:30	World of Strange Powers
18:00	Arabic Series
18:50	Local Programme on the Armed Forces
19:20	
PROGRAMME TWO	
19:50	Programme Review
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Message from Quran
20:40	Arabic Series
21:40	Local comedy
22:05	Tomorrow's Programme
22:30	News in Arabic
23:00	News Summary in Arabic
23:10	Varieties
PROGRAMME TWO	
18:00	L'au delà des hommes
19:00	News in French
19:15	Sport magazine (French)
19:30	News in Hebrew
19:45	Magazine Zero One
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	You Again
21:10	Remington Steele
22:00	News in English
22:20	Simon and Simon
RADIO JORDAN	
555 KHz. AM & 9.1 MHz. FM & partly on 95.0 KHz. SW	
Tel. 73111-19	
07:00	Light Music
07:30	Newsdesk
08:00	Morning Show
08:30	News Summary
10:05	Just a Minute
11:00	Follow the Wind
12:00	News Summary
12:05	Spectrum
13:00	News Summary
13:05	Pop Session Contd.
14:00	News Bulletin
14:10	Comedy
15:00	Coastal Hour
16:00	News Summary
16:05	Instrumentals
16:30	Old Favourites
17:00	My Word
17:30	Pop Session
18:00	News Summary
18:05	Sports Roundup
18:30	Music
19:30	News Desk
19:35	Date with a Star
20:00	Evening Show

WHAT'S GOING ON	
TODAY'S EVENTS	
EXHIBITIONS	
* An art exhibition by 17 contemporary Arab artists at the Petra Bank Art Gallery — Wadi Saïra Street (until April 9).	
* A plastic arts exhibition by Yarmouk University's painting club at the French Cultural Centre (until April 2).	
FEATURE FILM	
* "Caught on a Train" at 7:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday at the British Council.	
PLAYS	
* "Arabic plays for children daily at 10:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre (until March 31).	
* An Arabic play from Bahrain at 8:00 p.m. daily at the Royal Cultural Centre (until March 31).	
CULTURAL CENTRES	
Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 6610267	
American Centre .. 64371	
French Cultural Centre .. 631478	
Goethe Institute .. 641993	
Spanish Cultural Centre .. 624003	
Turkish Cultural Centre .. 639777	
Hayat Arts Centre .. 661595	
Husseini Youth City .. 661816	
Y.W.C.A. .. 641973	
Arabian Cultural Library .. 671111	
Univ. of Jordan Library .. 843555	
CHURCHES	
St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Amman, Tel. 624590.	
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Luwaidib, Tel. 637490.	
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Hussein, Tel. 661757.	
Terra Sancta Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Luwaidib, mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel. 621561.	
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, Tel. 623541.	
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabbal Amman, Tel. 678906.	
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 771331.	
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 775261.	
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 771751.	
Armenian International Church (Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 675534.	
Baptist School in Shamsiyya, Tel. 675534.	
Evangelical Lutheran Church Jabbal Amman, 6th Circle, (Rev. N. Samir), Tel. 811295.	
MUSEUMS	
"Children's Heritage and Science Museum" Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Hayat Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.	
Feldman Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.	

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

PRAYER TIMES

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information Department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08) 53300-5, where it should always be verified.

04:45	Fajr
05:25	(Sunrise) Duha
11:40	Dhuhr
15:11	Asr
17:53	Maghrib
19:15	Isha

ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

09:00	Agaba (RJ)
09:20	Cairo (RJ)
09:25	Jeddah (RJ)
09:30	Muscat, Dubai (RJ)
09:35	Damascus (RJ)
10:05	Abu Dhabi, Kuwait (RJ)
17:00	London (RJ)
17:20	Cairo (RJ)
18:45	Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
18:45	Bangkok (RJ)
01:00	Baghdad (RJ)

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be fair. A gradual increase in temperature is expected, with southeasterly moderate winds. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea.

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

07:35	Cairo (MS)
08:20	Sana'a (LH)
13:45	Kuwait (KU)
14:30	Istanbul, Ankara (TK)
15:05	Bahrain, Larnaca (QF)

DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

06:45	Agaba (RJ)
11:45	Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (R)
12:15	Frankfurt, Copenhagen (R)
13:00	Larnaca (R)
13:30	Cairo (RJ)
19:30	Kuwait, Damascus (R)
20:30	Bahrain, Dubai (R)
20:45	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (R)
21:00	Baghdad (R)
21:00	Jeddah (RJ)
23:15	Cairo (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

07:00	London (BA)
08:20	Cairo (MS)
10:10	Frankfurt (LH)
14:35	Kuwait (KU)
15:20	Asmara, Iszabul (TK)
15:40	Bahrain (QF)

Min./max. temp.

Amman	S / 18
Agaba	22 / 27
Dead Sea	3 / 22
Jordan Valley	10 / 25

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 14.4, Agaba 21.5. Humidity readings: Amman 47 per cent, Agaba 33 per cent.

CURRENCY EXCHANGE

Sunday rates

Local railway rates in Jls

Belgian franc	88.4
Dutch guilder	159.4
French franc	55.5
Italian lira	25.6
Japanese yen (for 100)	227.7
Swedish crown	32.4
Swiss franc	220.5
U.K. sterling pound	336.5
U.S. dollar	333.9
W. German mark	183.9

Cabinet approves 1987 CSCC budget, announces education appointments

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Cabinet on Sunday approved the general 1987 budget of the Civil Service Consumer Corporation and also gave the go-ahead for the appointment of 76 new employees in the corporation. The council of ministers also approved the formation of a new board for the Hittieh-Aqaba Railway corporation. The new board will be chaired by Transport Minister Ahmad Dakhan.

During the regular Cabinet session on Saturday evening, it was decided that the Ministry of Education will have a new secretary general as of April 1, 1987. He is Dr. Radi Al Waqfi who has been serving as the director of education in Ajloun district. Dr. Waqfi will succeed Dr. Ahmad Al Bashairah who has been appointed director general of the orphan financial development corporation to replace Mr. Hameed Al Tal who has retired. The new appointments were approved by the Cabinet during its session. The Cabinet also decided to



Dr. Radi Al Waqfi

retire 28 senior officials and directors of departments at the Ministry of Education as of April 1, 1987.

Bran subsidy

The Cabinet approved recommendations submitted by a special committee on drought, and these include a decision to reduce the price of bran sold to local

farmers by JD 10 per tonne. A tonne of bran will now be sold for JD 25. The Cabinet said that the treasury will cover the difference in price. The subsidy will amount to JD 1.4 million annually and the move was taken to encourage animal wealth development in the Kingdom, the Cabinet said in a statement.

According to the statement, the Cabinet also endorsed a recently signed protocol between Jordan and Sudan to promote economic and trade relations between the two countries. Under the terms of the protocol, the two countries agreed to exchange goods worth \$50 million, shared equally between the two sides over a period of one year. The protocol was signed by representatives from both countries in Amman on March 19.

One of the Cabinet's decisions on Saturday was the approval of a general 1987 budget for the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA). The budget amounts to JD 81.5 million.



Prime Minister Zaid Rifai Sunday confers with a delegation from the Supreme Soviet (Petra photo)

Rifai, Fayeze confer with Soviet delegation

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai on Sunday conferred with a delegation from the Supreme Soviet now visiting Jordan at the invitation of Mr. Akel Al Fayeze, the speaker of the Lower House of Parliament.

At the meeting, Mr. Rifai expounded Jordan's policies with regard to Middle East issues and discussed the Kingdom's endeavours for the establishment of a lasting peace.

Mr. Rifai also reiterated the need for convening an international conference on the Middle East to be attended by all concerned parties and the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council. Several Parliament deputies attended the meeting.

The delegation, led by Mr. Vladimir Orlov, earlier held a meeting with Mr. Fayeze to discuss the Middle East question. Mr. Fayeze referred Jordan's endeavours for resolving the Middle East problem through an international conference and he reviewed current efforts to enlist all nation's support for the conference.

Mr. Fayeze also commended the Soviet Union for its support of Arab just causes and Arab rights in occupied Palestine. Jordan and the Soviet Union hold similar views on numerous world issues, especially nuclear disarmament, Mr. Fayeze said.

Referring to the situation in the occupied Arab territories, Mr. Fayeze said that Israel was practising inhuman measures against the indigenous population, confiscating Arab land and building settlements to obliterate the Arab identity.

Referring to the Gulf war he said that its continuation causes more sufferings and tragedies for all the people in the region, especially the Iraqi and Iranian people. Mr. Fayeze said that world powers should exert greater

efforts to end the conflict and bring about peace to the region.

He also said that an exchange of visits by parliamentarians on both sides could bolster ties of understanding and friendship between the two countries.

For his part, Mr. Orlov said that his visit to Jordan re-emphasised the need for real international efforts to help bring about a permanent and just peace in the region. He said that the Soviet Union would pursue all efforts for convening an international conference because, he said, it is the only means to establish peace.

The Soviet delegation visited Al Baqa'a refugee camp later on Sunday and were briefed by officials from the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) on services offered to the Palestinian refugees. The district governor of Balqa' briefed the visitors on Jordan's contribution to these services, especially in education, electricity and water supplies.

After the Baqa'a visit the delegation went to the Greco-Roman city of Jerash and toured its different sections. They were accompanied on the tour by Mr. Ismail Hijazi, deputy speaker of the Lower House of Parliament.

Khatib meets TASS director

Minister of Information Mohammad Khatib Sunday received Director General of TASS News Agency Mikhail Loevo, who is accompanying the Soviet parliamentary delegation.

The talks covered means of promoting information cooperation between Jordan and the Soviet Union and in particular between TASS News Agency and the Jordan News Agency, Petra. Mr. Loevo is also a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Supreme Soviet.

Canadian experts briefed on Jordan's agricultural policy

AMMAN (Petra) — A team of Canadian agricultural experts on Sunday conferred with Dr. Salem Al Lawzi, the under secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, to discuss and review agricultural cooperation between Jordan and Canada.

Dr. Lawzi outlined Jordan's agricultural policy which, he said, is aimed at helping to attain economic integration among Arab states and food security in the Arab World. Dr. Lawzi in-

formed the team of his ministry's agricultural plans and programmes and the agricultural patterns system being applied in Jordan to help make the country self-sufficient in different crops.

The team are visiting Jordan at the invitation of the Ministry of Agriculture and will be oriented on Jordan's agricultural experiments. They will also tour agricultural projects and agricultural stations in the country.

RSS official seconded to Islamic academy

AMMAN (J.T.) — Dr. Hani Fawzi Al Mulqi, the director of the Solar Energy Research Centre at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), has been seconded to the Islamic Academy of Sciences (IAS) to serve as its executive director. The newly established Amman-based IAS and its 38-member general assembly is due to convene in Amman on April 15 to entrust its board of directors with drawing up a working plan and programmes for the academy, according to Dr. Mulqi.

Dr. Mulqi said that the academy will offer advice in scientific and technological fields to various Islamic organisations, will

help work out programmes and carry out activities related to science and technology and will also encourage scientists and researchers from Islamic states to carry out joint projects.

A decision to establish the IAS was taken by the Islamic summit conference held in Casablanca in January 1984 upon the recommendations of an Islamic ministerial committee chaired by Pakistani President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq. General Zia Ul Haq and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan co-chaired the academy for which a general assembly has been elected together with a nine-member board of directors chaired by Dr. Mumtaz Ali from Pakistan.



Dr. Hani Fawzi Al Mulqi

Education needs public support—Crown Prince

ZARQA (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Sunday urged the public to help the Ministry of Education finance the education process in Jordan and said that education should have national priority because of its far reaching effects on future generations.

should visit industrial organisations in the country and discuss their requirements of manpower, Prince Hassan said. Such visits and dialogues, he said, are bound to enhance the theoretical lessons which the students receive in class.

At the outset of the meeting Mr. Ali Hanabdeh, the director of education in Zarqa Governorate, made a speech in which he outlined the different problems facing the educational sector in the governorate.

Prince Hassan earlier made a tour of Zarqa Governorate and visited Zarqa Governor Eid Qatameh at his residence. The governor briefed the Crown Prince on the situation in schools of the district and said that at present the governorate has 444 schools.

Prince Hassan later toured Jinnaa district in Zarqa where he met with local residents and inquired about their conditions. He also called at a number of schools in the district and at secondary schools in Zarqa.

Prince Hassan was accompanied on the tour by Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi and senior officials from the Ministry of Education.

Addressing a meeting of educationalists, directors of schools and education departments gathered at the Comprehensive School for Boys in Zarqa, Prince Hassan said that the educational process should not be a process of turning out educated people but rather an integrated process for providing the community with its needs of well-trained young men and women. This is especially important today as Jordan has begun to witness a problem of unemployment where the unemployed are either untrained or decline to take up trades or jobs involving manual work, Prince Hassan added.

He referred to a study on the country's educational policy prepared by a special team of specialists and educationalists and said that this study will be put forward for general discussion at a general meeting which will tackle all aspects of the educational

process in the country. In this coming meeting Prince Hassan said educationalists, teachers and all those involved in the educational process, even parents, will be welcome to discuss the education situation and the problems which impede its development. Prince Hassan said that adequate buildings should be made available to serve as schools in order to alleviate the problem of overcrowding. He said that sufficient land for school buildings should be made available in the Zarqa region in order to accommodate the increasing number of students and to end the two-shift system which is not suitable and places additional burdens on schools and teachers.

Jordan is in need of skilled manpower capable of adapting to the real needs of the community and therefore students should be involved in open and frank dialogues with their teachers and

Princess Sarvath graduates first group of students from YWMA training centre

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath Sunday attended a graduation ceremony for the first batch of students from the Young Women's Muslim Association (YWMA) Centre for Special Education.



Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath Sunday presents certificates to the first batch of graduates who completed courses run by the Young Women's Muslim Association Centre for Special Education (Petra photo)

The centre, which was established in 1972 under the honorary presidency of Princess Sarvath, provides education to handicapped children and also helps them find employment in private and public institutions.

At the outset of the ceremony, the centre's director made a speech outlining the objectives of the centre and the course of education given to the handicapped children to help them adapt to normal social life.

Princess Sarvath later distributed diplomas to the 22 graduates in the presence of Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'ed Ibn Zaid and Princess Majida as well as Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan, Minister of Education Thouqan Al Hindawi and relatives of the graduates.

The centre has helped five of its graduates find jobs in local companies and two have been given employment by their relatives in businesses. At least 14

graduates will be given jobs at a workshop established at the King Hussein Industrial City for the manufacture of wooden furniture.

International symposium on paediatrics to open in Amman on Thursday

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The fourth international paediatric symposium entitled "Recent Developments in Paediatrics" will open this Thursday under the patronage of Minister of Health Zaid Hammeh.

In a press conference Dr. Hasan Pharaon, president of the Jordan Paediatric Society, said that the conference will last for a period of two days and will include eight separate sessions. "All Jordanian physicians are encouraged and invited to attend, although most of the topics to be discussed in the sessions are aimed at paediatricians, general

practitioners and resident physicians," Dr. Pharaon said.

In addition to the 200 Jordanian physicians already registered, guest lecturers from England, Germany, Holland and Finland will be participating. Dr. Pharaon told reporters that representatives from all the Eastern Mediterranean countries have also been invited to attend.

"We expect approximately 400 physicians to be present," reflecting a growing concern among physicians for such specialised events, he said.

The conference, to be held at the Marriott Hotel, will begin with opening speeches from the

Minister of Health, the president of the Jordanian Medical Association, Dr. Hassan Khreis, and Dr. Pharaon, who will also head the conference.

The working sessions will begin immediately afterwards. Discussions will revolve around the following topics: prevention of high-risk pregnancy, treatment of premature infants, feeding premature infants, recent advances in infant nutrition, recent advances in etiology, pathophysiology, and treatment of diarrhoea, bleeding disorders, icterus neonatorum, new vaccines, epidemiology of hepatitis in Jordan, and neonatal infections.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Lawzi receives statement on human rights

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi on Sunday received a statement from the Spanish Senate issued on the 20th anniversary of the approval by the United Nations General Assembly of the international agreement on civilian rights and basic freedoms. The statement urged all countries to sign the international document which guarantees the freedoms and civil rights of all nations and upholds human rights and basic principles on co-existence and international cooperation.

Fayeze meets with Greek ambassador

AMMAN (Petra) — Lower House of Parliament Speaker Akel Al Fayeze, who is also the president of the Arab Parliamentary Union (APU), on Sunday received Greek Ambassador in Amman Hamid Vellidis. They discussed existing relations between the two countries in various fields. Mr. Fayeze was briefed by Mr. Vellidis on his country's view vis-a-vis its current crisis with Turkey over oil drilling rights in the Aegean Sea. Mr. Fayeze expressed hope that the dispute between the two countries would be settled through peaceful means.

Arab justice ministers to meet April 11

AMMAN (J.T.) — The fifth session of the Arab Justice Ministers conference will open here on April 11. A Jordanian delegation to the conference has been formed and will be headed by Minister of Justice Riyadh Al Shaka'a. Secretary General of the Arab Justice Ministers Council Mohammad Miko is due here on Monday to discuss arrangements and preparations for the conference.

Commercial deposits stand at JD 1.95b

AMMAN (Petra) — The total deposits in Jordanian commercial banks, including the Honsing Bank, amounted to JD 1,949,885,000 at the end of January 1987, according to the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ). In a statistical bulletin issued Sunday, the CBJ said that of this amount public sector institutions held JD 33,798 million while the remainder was deposited by the private sector.

Committee studies public transport

AMMAN (Petra) — A special committee from the Greater Amman Municipality and the Traffic Department has completed a report on public transport services in the Greater Amman area. The report contains proposals for a general transport policy and the current situation of public transport services in Greater Amman and means of improving services. The committee was set up following a field tour of bus and service taxi stations in Amman last February by Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh and Interior Minister Rajai Dajani.

Dakhqan to visit Sudan

AMMAN (Petra) — Transport Minister Ahmad Dakhan will leave for Sudan on Tuesday at the head of a Jordanian delegation on a several day visit to Sudan. During the visit, Mr. Dakhan will hold talks with officials at the Sudanese Transport Ministry on bolstering and further promoting bilateral relations in various transport fields, especially in air and land transport.

Chamber of industry team leaves for Iraq

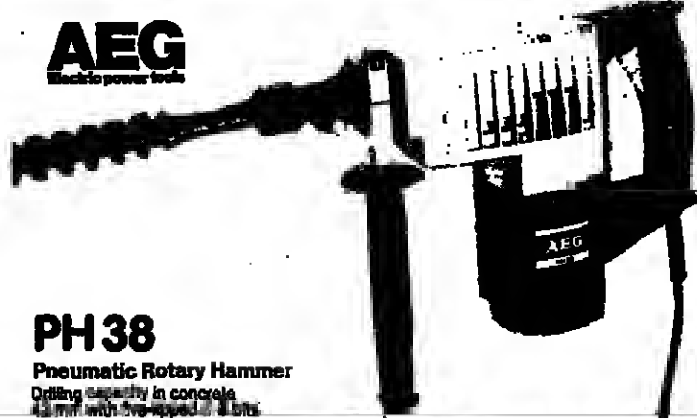
AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation from the Amman Chamber of Industry board of directors Sunday left for Baghdad on a several-day working visit to Iraq. During the visit, the delegation will hold talks with the Iraqi minister of industry and officials at the Federation of Iraqi Chambers of Commerce and Industry on means of strengthening and bolstering economic cooperation between Jordan and Iraq. The delegation is led by the chamber's president Issam Bdeir.

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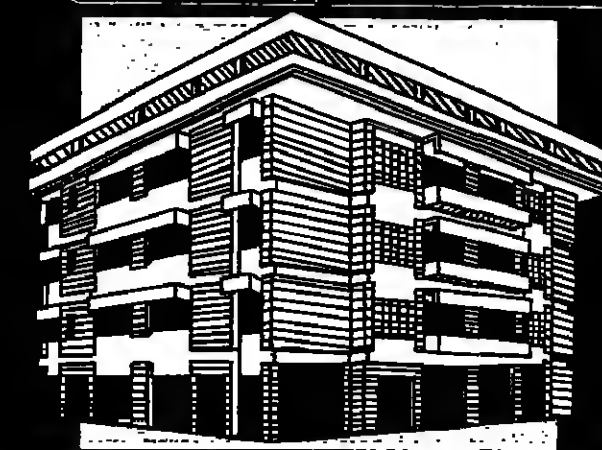


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Aegean dispute lives on

THE tension between Greece and Turkey have subsided — for the moment at least. After a couple of tense days, in which naval forces of both sides faced each other in the Aegean, international pressure and reason have luckily prevailed. We can only hope that the two sides can work out a long-term agreement over their territorial dispute to head off another such flare-up.

The present crisis began this week when Turkey threatened to send a ship to explore for oil in the disputed waters. This, Turkey claimed, was in response to a Greek declaration of its intention to drill for oil off Thassos Island, which Turkey claims is international waters. Escorted by Turkish warships, the Sismik 1, the oil exploration ship, set out from Ankara on Saturday, prompting the Greeks to mobilise their naval forces, and, at the same time, threaten to close an American base.

After some tense moments, and some pressure on Turkey from other NATO countries, especially the U.S., Ankara agreed not to press the issue and held back the Sismik 1. Greece reciprocated by assuring Turkey that an oil-consortium would not drill for oil and by withdrawing the threat of closing any American bases. Thus, a naval military clash was averted between two members of NATO.

The Greek-Turkish dispute over the Aegean goes back to the dissolution of the Ottoman empire and the founding of modern Greece and Turkey. The conflict flared up in 1976, leading to a treaty under what was known as the Berne Agreement, which stipulates that "Athens and Ankara undertake to abstain from any initiative or act relating to the continental shelf of the Aegean Sea which might prejudice negotiations." These negotiations, however, have not succeeded in providing an agreement over the disputed waters.

Under the U.N. Law of the Sea, agreed upon in 1982, Greece claims a 12-mile limit around each of its 2,000 islands, a limit which according to Turkey gives Greece over 70 per cent of the Aegean. This, says Turkey, is unacceptable. Turkey has even threatened to go to war if Greece attempts to enforce the 12-mile limit. Thus, Greece's reported declaration of intent to drill for oil was, as Turkey saw it, an implicit attempt to enforce the limit. That cooler heads prevailed, and both sides refrained from pressing the issue, can only be applauded. We can only hope that the danger of confrontation has brought home to everyone involved, including NATO and the U.N., the need to reach a speedy and equitable solution to the Aegean disagreement. As we have just seen, the dispute can be ignored only at the great risk of war.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Words are not enough

IT seems from Israeli leaders' statements and continued manifestations of Tel Aviv's official policy of aggression on the Arabs that there is no imminent end to the Arab-Israeli conflict. Also the disarray in the ranks of the Arab countries makes the possibility of an imminent solution to the Middle East problem very far indeed. Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said Saturday that Israel was in no hurry for a solution with the Arab countries, and was only seeking direct negotiations with each one alone. There is really nothing in the Arab stand which can make Israel change its mind and accept the idea of an international conference which the Arabs continue to advocate. The present weak Arab situation and the lack of coordination of policies among Arab leaders prompt Israel to pursue its objectives and scoff at all Arab countries' ideas. The Arabs will continue to hear Shamir calling for direct negotiations and insisting that the Arabs hold direct talks with the Jewish state as long as they are disunited and weak and incapable of taking the initiative diplomatically or militarily.

Al Dustour: Diplomacy continues but...

IN a drive to secure the convening of the proposed international conference on the Middle East, Jordan continues its diplomatic offensive world-wide to enlist support and assistance from various countries. But it is clear that such a conference will have more value and can reach fruitful results, and the Arab causes can guarantee the backing of all world nations if the Arabs adopt a unified policy and unify their positions. Since all Arab states seek the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, their leaders should come to agreement on the proper approach for a lasting solution for the problem. There is indeed good indication that the international community is fully behind the idea of this conference, but the Arab position will win further weight if the Arabs are united and if their countries mobilise all their resources and their power to regain their rights and their lands. Jordan has been instrumental in securing the support of the European Community, and also other nations for the convening of the international conference. There is no doubt that Jordanian diplomacy will continue to move in this direction.

Sawt Al Shaab: Fishing in muddy waters

EVER since Syrian troops were deployed in west Beirut, their commanders realised that the move was not a mere picnic along the beach, but rather a hard mission intended to bring back peace to the embattled city. The Syrian troops entered the city in order to remove all forms of militia presence in accordance with an agreement with local party leaders. The deployment was successful in that it secured an end to the factional fighting in the streets of Beirut and brought back peace and security and calm to the city residents. The Syrians are now involved in implementing their second stage of action. They have called on the leaders of warring factions to meet together for a national reconciliation which is really required for a lasting settlement to the civil strife in Lebanon. But as the Syrians were busy trying to bring back peace and security, certain elements have been working in the dark, conspiring against the security of the country. These elements whose selfish interests have been damaged and endangered with the deployment of Syrian troops are Israeli and Iranian agents and their allies who want to continue to fish in muddy waters.

The struggle against war crimes goes on

By Dr. Waleed Sa'di

IT is certainly most gratifying for the cause of humanitarian law and human rights to learn that the federal government of Canada intends to take immediate measures to amend its criminal code in order to prosecute all persons found within its jurisdiction who are suspected of perpetrating "war crimes" or "crimes against humanity." This new and bold initiative by Canada, which came in the wake of the Deschenes Commission's report to the Canadian nation constituted to investigate files of some 250 Canadian citizens suspected of committing atrocities during World War II, heralds a new phase in the annals of the long struggle against war crimes and crimes against humanity and goes well beyond the scope and dimension of the Nazi war crimes which had played the pivotal and catalytic role in articulating, in the first place, the foundation for this new Canadian endeavour and served as a spring board for the broader crusade against such heinous crimes.

Now, one would rightfully expect other countries, especially those with high credentials in the general struggle for the promotion and protection of human rights, to follow suit and emulate Canada's determination and political will in the quest for the punishment and eradication of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

While we commend the Deschenes Commission for unleashing the forces for action in this domain and congratulate the federal government of Canada for its bold and swift reaction to the Commission's findings and recommendations, we must remind ourselves as well that much of Canada's action and reaction does not really go beyond its treaty obligations and the scope of relevant international law.

As a state party to the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights and as a contracting party in the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and the Convention on the Non-applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity, Canada has been all along treaty-bound to put these conventions into effect by legislative and other measures. It will be recalled that Article II of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, which entered into force in 1951, clearly defines genocide as any act committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial or religious group by killing members thereof or causing serious bodily or mental harm to them or deliberately inflicting on them conditions of life calculated to bring about their physical destruction in whole or in part. Article III thereof prescribes that not only genocide per se is punishable but also the conspiracy, the intent, the attempt and the complicity to commit genocide are punishable as well under the convention. Maybe Canada had these provisions in mind when it refused the accreditation of General Amos Yaron as Israel's military attaché in Ottawa.

Seen from this vantage point of view, Canada was clearly treaty-bound to enact laws with a view to prosecute and punish persons found guilty of the crime of genocide which clearly encompasses as well the Nazi war crimes and other similar crimes against humanity committed in contemporary situations all over the world where human rights are systematically and grossly violated. Needless to say, such treaty obligations are over and beyond the other obligations established by other relevant international laws including those articulated and codified in the Charter of the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg dated Aug. 8, 1945, and confirmed by the U.N. General Assembly Resolutions No. 3 (1) dated Feb. 13, 1946, and No. 95 (1) dated Dec. 11, 1946; as well as those provided for in the Geneva Conventions of 1949 for the protection of war victims; and by Protocols I and II to the said Geneva conventions which were formulated and adopted during the Geneva Diplomatic Conference in the years, between 1974 and 1977. The said two protocols have contributed to the development of a new body of international customary law in the field of humanitarian law and one can argue that their principles and guidelines are applicable as well to the states which have refused to ratify them till this date.

What is really novel about Canada's pioneering steps in the quest for the proper apprehension, prosecution and punishment of war criminals and the perpetrators of crimes against humanity and go beyond the call of established international duty is its determination to prosecute such criminals when found within its territory and jurisdiction for crimes committed elsewhere. This bold Canadian intention to establish new precedents in this domain may be construed as repugnant to the letter if not the spirit of the relevant binding treaties or applicable body of international law. For example, Article VI of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of genocide clearly states that persons charged with genocide shall be tried in the territory of the state where the crime was committed or before an international tribunal. Article VII thereof comes out loud and clear on the point of extradition and declares that genocide shall not be construed as political crimes for purposes of extradition and that the contracting parties must grant extradition in accordance with their respective laws and treaty obligations.

Yet one can submit strong arguments in support of states which decide to exercise jurisdiction in situations where the crime of genocide or its like has been committed outside their territories if one keeps in perspective at all times the spirit of the relevant conventions and pertinent international law governing such cases which is no other than apprehending, prosecuting and punishing the guilty and preventing the occurrence of such crimes. The jurisdic-

tional issue may or may not have been intended to be a cardinal issue in the relevant conventions and treaties. One can certainly see and appreciate the difficulties that could arise from this contentious point and how conflict of interest can arise between states because of it. One would think that the federal government of Canada would be well advised if they proceed cautiously on this point and attempt to reconcile the differences which could arise between it and other countries which were or are rendered more directly affected by the commission of war crimes or crimes against humanity including genocide by virtue of the fact that the crimes occurred on their soil and against their respective peoples. Which state stands in a more propitious condition to provide effective penalties for the crimes in question as well as provide effective and meaningful remedies to the relatives of the victims of such crimes should guide governments in their collective search for effective punishment and remedies in cases involving war crimes and crimes against humanity.

The statute of limitation and its possible application to the cases at bar need not pose legal problems for the federal government of Canada in its new effort to bring the perpetrators of war crimes and crimes against humanity to justice and accountability. The Convention on the non-applicability of statutory limitation to war crimes and crimes against humanity which was adopted in 1968 and entered into force in 1975 resolves this point for all times, as far as Canada is concerned, by virtue of its ratification of the said Convention right from the beginning. That Convention clearly states in its first article that statutory limitation shall not apply to war crimes and crimes against humanity as defined in the Charter of the International Tribunal at Nuremberg and the Geneva Conventions of 1949. The Convention on the non-applicability of statutory limitations also prescribes in its second article that representatives of state authority and private individuals who as principals or accomplices participate in or incite others to commit such crimes or who conspire to commit them irrespective of the degree of their completion are also punishable. Also brought within the orbit of this convention are the representative of state authority who even tolerate the commission of war crimes or crimes against humanity who are rendered punishable as well and for whom the statute of limitation is waived for all times and circumstances.

Thus, as we salute the federal government of Canada for its new declared policy and guidelines in the crusade against all war crimes and crimes against humanity no matter where and when they were or are committed, we must call on the rest of the international community to follow the example of Canada and endeavour to coordinate their efforts in this new and bold direction and pool their resources to put an end to all crimes against man no matter when or where or by whom they were committed.

Palestinian women under occupation organising against triple oppression

By Joost R. Hiltermann

A small union office; a desk, some chairs. A few men and women are drinking tea. "The Seamen's Union was established in 1958," the union secretary says. "We have 250 members, all of whom are employed in workshops here in town. 40 per cent of the members are women. They earn less than men: On average they take home 30 Jordanian dinars (about \$90) a month, while a man earns on average 30 dinars per month. This is because men produce more." A murmur rises from the women. A debate ensues between them and the union secretary. "It is because men have longer work experience," the unionist says, frowning. Then a young woman jumps up from her chair and says: "Now you see why we have set up women's committees!"

The woman's name is Samar Hawash, and she is a member of the administrative committee of the Nabulus branch of the Palestinian Working Women's Committee (PWWC), one of the main organisations active on women's issues in the occupied territories. The original members of the Nabulus committee were members of the Nabulus Seamen's Union in 1977, but after 1980, when the PWWC was established on a national level, the women split off from the union to create an independent unit, although many of the committee members remain active in the union. The relationship between the union and the women activists is uneasy, since the union leadership is controlled by men who so far have displayed little understanding, or even willingness to try to understand, the particular problems women face both at home and at work.

The women activists' ambivalent attitude toward the male-governed unions is a major theme in the development of the Palestinian women's movement, for while unions are recognised as general toward defending workers' interests, they have not so far proved to be the appropriate vehicles for working women to defend their particular interests.

There has been no single strategy by women for dealing with their role in unions. In Nabulus, the PWWC set up a committee of activists from the Seamen's Union, while continuing to work with the union, but in Ramallah, activists of the Union of Women's Work Committees (UWWC) encouraged women to join unions. About 150, led by the activists, did in fact join the Construction and General Workers Union. Says Amal Wahdan, a UWWC founding member who has been instrumental in the growth of the Palestinian union movement: "We helped push women into the unions. We set up a working women's committee inside the Ramallah Institutions Union, that is, we imposed it on them, but they accepted it because they had no access to working women."

At the Nabulus branch of the PWWC, the sewing class has just ended. Samar Hawash elaborates on the theme broached at the union office in the morning:

"Often when we visit sewing workshops, owners will tell us that women produce less than men, and they usually cite biological reasons. It is ridiculous, because in the villages women are working in the fields while men sit unemployed in the village coffee house. The union secretary's views are, in fact, reactionary. Many women have been at work for only a short time. Owners are always complaining that the women are not producing enough, but the reason why they employ women is because their labour is cheaper — and then never mind if they produce less! Women get lower wages because they are seen as inferior. At home they are not allowed to take decisions. They go to work because they have to, not because they have ideas about freedom or something like that. Women must gain self-confidence and consciousness to fight for their rights in the workplace. They have to demand their rights from the owners. Most of the women here do not even know how much they are producing, what wages they are entitled to, and so forth. The role of our committee is to encourage women, and to tell them that they are not only working for money but also for themselves!"

The establishment of the UWWC in 1978 meant the beginning of a new stage in the struggle of Palestinian women for their individual and collective rights. During the next few years three more committees followed, reflecting in part the schisms in the Palestinian national movement: the Palestinian Women's Committees (PWC), the Women's Committees for Social Work (WCSW), and the PWWC. These committees have set themselves the task to mobilise women around issues of family, work and national rights. During the 1986 UWWC conference delegates called for a greater effort to organise housewives and women wage workers, since they constitute the majority of women in the occupied territories and "face triple oppression: as workers, as women, and as Palestinians." UWWC members pledged to place greater emphasis on the struggle to combat illiteracy, not just in language, but also socially and politically, in other words to educate women about their social and political rights.

In spite of the Israeli military occupation, the national issue is not necessarily at the top of the women's agenda. Obstacles to recruitment arise at a very basic social level: Many young women are not allowed to leave the immediate vicinity of their homes, let alone visit a committee or union office. In the village of Abu Dis near Jerusalem, for example, there is an active union and there are a number of sewing workshops predominantly employing women. Yet the union's efforts to recruit these women have been frustrated. Says Amal Wahdan who was active in Abu Dis in the early 1980s, and who is currently under house arrest in Al Bira: "We had a committee of working women, but because of

traditional obstacles, many women could not come to the union. But they would show up for union celebrations to which the whole village is invited... All of these women working in the textile shops [subcontracting for Israeli companies, some even producing yarmulkes for tourists] are unmarried. As soon as they get married they quit their job. Many women take jobs because they need to, but also because they have nothing else to do, and they do not want to stay inside the house. They get paid less than men because — this is the employers' argument — of the type of work they do, for example packing (at the Cigarette Company in Abu Dis)... At the TAKO tissue paper factory in Ramallah, we tried to attract women by inviting them to our women's committee's office, not to the union."

A PWC organiser in the Hebron area argued along similar lines. "We place the women's question before the national question. We focus all our activities on bringing the women out of their homes to make them more self-confident and independent. Once they believe in themselves, they will know that they can become leaders in any field they choose, including the military field. So if a woman first gains her own rights by breaking down her internal barriers, then in the house, and then in society at large, then after that she will also be able to deal with the occupation. A woman cannot fight the occupation if she is not even convinced that she has rights, for example the right to leave her house, for whatever reason."

During the UWWC conference, delegates affirmed their commitment to a "united, revolutionary and realistic" approach in the Palestinian movement under the leadership of the PLO. Delegates also denounced Israel's "iron fist" policy, especially the restrictions imposed on women activists and UWWC members. UWWC Secretary-General Sahira Kamal has been under town arrest in Jerusalem intermittently since 1980. In addition, five members of the UWWC executive committee have been forbidden to leave the country. Six UWWC members were prevented from attending the Nairobi women's conference in July 1985.

Until now, the women's committees in the West Bank have been spared the fate of other organisations under Israeli occupation, like break-ins and closures. The fact that most women organisers have been immune so far from the repressive Israeli policies from which many men have suffered, including administrative detention and deportation, can be attributed in part to a belief among Israeli leaders that the women's groups do not yet command the streets in the occupied territories, and in part also to the strong support that the Palestinian women's groups enjoy abroad. Activists believe that as long as the inter-

national women's movement continues to express its solidarity with the struggle of the women in the West Bank and Gaza — as it did in Nairobi in 1985 — and as long as the Palestinian women's organisations continue to recruit women on the basis of women's issues rather than purely national ones, the political cost of crackdown on the activists may be too high for the Israeli authorities.

Organising women who work across the Green Line in Israel has proved even more difficult. According to Wahdan: "Some of our members are employed in Israel, but they are older women who work as cleaners in Hadassah hospital in west Jerusalem. So far the union has not been able to do anything for women who work across the Green Line. They themselves do not want it. They are afraid that they may lose their job if they are active."

In the back room of a house in Al Far'a refugee camp near Nabulus, there is a branch of the Nabulus UWWC. Some 15 young women, whose families originally hailed from Haifa and Jaffa, are learning to sew. Like many others in the camp, they have not finished high school, nor are they likely to. Books, notebooks, pencils and school uniforms are very expensive, and boys get priority treatment in a family. Many have therefore joined the labour force. A great number work in Nabulus, some 20 kilometres away, in sewing workshops or as secretaries or teachers. Others travel daily across the Green Line to find work in Israeli factories or agriculture. Their earnings are minimal: Not much more than one or one-and-a-half dinars (\$3-4) per day, which is hardly enough to buy bread for the family. The Israeli authorities so far have not harassed the committee, which is the only women's committee in Al Far'a camp. But the occupation makes itself felt in other ways, the women assert: By reducing the chances they might have in developing themselves in society.

A committee activist explains that the political consciousness of the women in this camp is particularly high. They gained it, she argues, by leaving their homes for short periods (the sewing class meets twice weekly for a few hours), by working together and talking about the situation that impinges on them. "Their liberation comes in stages, not overnight. It is important to get them out of the house first, then to get them together in one place where they work, then to discuss things with them — both the occupation and the traditional structures that keep them confined in the camp. The struggles for liberation from male oppression and national oppression are intertwined. They are one and the same struggle, because the occupation reinforces the structure of male oppression. By raising the consciousness of women, they will be able to join men in the struggle for national liberation while at the same time liberating themselves from male oppression in the process!" — Middle East International, London.

Holland — haven for the oppressed — moves to curb influx of political asylum-seekers

By Roland de Ligny
The Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — This historic haven nation for the oppressed will cool its traditional warm welcome in hopes of fending off a flood of refugees seeking political asylum.

Following a European-wide trend, Dutch Premier Ruud Lubbers announced Friday that stipends for asylum-seekers would be drastically cut, and that the decision-making process on asylum requests would be speeded up.

"We think that there is a direct link between the level of financial support and the size of the refugee influx," Lubbers told reporters.

The living allowance for those awaiting a decision on asylum will be cut by more than half to 450 guilders (\$225) a month. Lubbers said the government will still provide food and lodging.

He said the staff that evaluates asylum request will be more than doubled. A decision can now take the government up to five years.

"It is hoped that the first sifting, between those whose fears for persecution are genuine and those who come for economic reasons, will be completed in nine weeks," Lubbers said.

The new measures are expected to become effective next month, after a parliamentary debate in early April.

Lubbers stressed that what he called "bona fide" asylum-seekers would only benefit from the new system.

Their acceptance as political refugees will come around much quicker than now," Lubbers said at his weekly news conference here.

"But we hope to stem the flow of economically motivated asylum-seekers, for the jungle drums will spread the word quickly," the premier said.

The Dutch tradition of asylum dates back to the 16th century, when thousands of Portuguese Jews fled the inquisition to Amsterdam.

They were followed by French Huguenots in the 17th century, Westphalians seeking prosperity in the 19th, and refugees from a variety of nations in modern times.

Until 1984, about 400 to 500 people sought asylum in The Netherlands a year.

But that year, thousands of Sri Lankan Tamils arrived, seeking asylum from what they said was persecution by the Sinhalese majority in their island nation.

"We have indications that not all of those coming to The Netherlands are bona fide asylum-seekers," Lubbers said last week.

Like some other Western European governments, the Dutch claim many modern-day refugees flee economic hardship, not political persecution.

In response to its 1984 influx, the Dutch government doubled from 250 to 500 its annual quota

of resettlement invitations to refugees. Those candidates are selected by the U.N. The Dutch government decides all other cases, including unwanted arrivals like the Tamils.

Last December, the number of asylum-seekers jumped to about 1,000. In January it reached 1,100 then 1,300 in February, and 1,500 in the first three weeks of March. The most significant increase was in nationals from Ghana, Zaire, and India.

Reflecting another European-wide problem, Lubbers said last week that the 13,000 refugees awaiting decisions on their asylum requests are a major drain on public resources for this nation of 14.6 million.

They currently get a monthly allowance of 950 guilders (\$475) plus room and board until their request is decided, justice ministry spokesman Victor Holtus said.

The number of asylum requests rejected has risen sharply here, with 70.9 per cent refused last year, compared to 57.8 in 1984, according to ministry figures.

After the Tamil influx, the government sent a special emissary to Sri Lanka last year. The emissary said Tamils could live safely in parts of Sri Lanka, despite its sectarian conflict.

The Dutch then expelled many Tamils and the number of arrivals declined sharply.

Western European nations are attracting tens of thousands of asylum-seekers yearly, many from former colonial possessions.

Because of its own Tamil influx, Britain began requiring visas in late 1985 for Sri Lankan nationals, despite their Commonwealth status, which had previously entitled them to visa-free entry.

The British restrictions checked the Tamil request rate, which had soared to 1,200 in the month of May 1985.

Britain also began requiring visas in 1986 for nationals of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Ghana, also Commonwealth nations.

Last year Spain began deporting all undocumented aliens to foil a ploy in which asylum-seekers arrive without papers to slow the expulsion procedure.

A total of 7,652 people sought political asylum there in 1985, mostly Cubans, Argentinians and Iranians.

A spokesman for the French Office for the protection of Refugees and Stateless People (OFPRA), told the Associated Press that France has taken no measures aimed specifically at reducing the refugee tide. But France responded to its 1985-86 spate of bombing attacks by wholesale expulsions of illegal aliens.

Despite its own tradition of political asylum, the number of asylum requests France has granted fell from 86 per cent in 1980 to 44 per cent in 1985. Last year, only 10,645 of 26,290 requests were granted.



"Platoon" — the film and its actor are the talks of Hollywood

Dafoe of 'Platoon' breaks the mould

By Aly Sujo
Reuters

NEW YORK — Willem Dafoe came to his highly praised performance as an American fighting man in the Vietnam war film "Platoon" via screen portrayals of a counterfeiter, a drifter and similar roles.

Dafoe has been nominated for an Oscar as best supporting actor for his portrayal of Elias, the sergeant in the film.

The raspy-voiced high-cheeked 32-year-old arrived in New York City in 1977 to look for work in the theatre.

Traditional off-broadway fare seemed insubstantial, he recalled in an interview with Reuters, but the visionary Wooster Group (named after a street in the New York neighbourhood of Soho that artists frequent) caught his attention. So did its director, Elizabeth LeCompte, with whom he now lives and works.

In the 1980s, the Wooster Group evolved into the city's leading avant-garde troupe, and a number of its artists headed for the cultural mainstream.

Dafoe's first film roles as a counterfeiter ("To Live and Die in L.A."), a drifter ("Roadhouse"), and a villainous biker ("Streets of Fire") led to a host of similar roles.

"It got to the point where I'd receive a script and I could look at the title and turn to page 4 and know just what was on it: 'shoot such-and-such in the face. Page 12: throw little girl down the

stairs, and so on," he said.

In "Platoon", Dafoe broke the mould. The film, with its conflict between Dafoe's "Good" sergeant and his murderous rival (played by Tom Berenger), is brimming with Christian imagery, including Elias' climatic martyrdom.

Yet the actor is sceptical of the film's much-vaunted naturalism, and the impact it is said to have had.

"When the critics implied that 'Platoon' was accurate in its detail and not hoked up too much, a weird kind of moral obligation was created," he said.

"People who had not been in Vietnam wanted to see (the film). And when they did, they felt as if they'd been there."

"And of course I'm cynical enough to say 'No, baby, you weren't,'" he added. "It's only a movie, a flickering light on the screen."

Wisconsin born and bred, Dafoe's vaguely-recalled flimsy ancestry is punctuated by a sole military footnote: The Dafoes came to the United States with Hessian mercenaries to fight against the colonialists in the revolutionary war. They deserted.

Dafoe laughed, "I grew up with John Wayne movies and I had most of those macho images to draw from. They're fairly potent. So somewhere in the training and shooting for 'Platoon' I came up against that mythology, and I drew from it."

Yet he doesn't wholly dismiss the "Platoon" phenomenon.

"Some say that it simply homogenises experience, that it's another media wash ... but something as charged as this film crashes right through our unresolved feeling."

Oliver Stone's film, considered a favourite to win this year's best picture Oscar, was rejected by every major Hollywood studio over the last seven years. Yet in its first 10 weeks, it grossed over \$66 million drawing on a long-submerged public curiosity about the war's "reality."

"Platoon is one of a number of Vietnam epics scheduled for release this year. Among them are 'Hamburger Hill' directed by Britain's John Irvin, 'Good Morning Vietnam' with Robin Williams, and Stanley Kubrick's 'Full-Metal Jacket', said to be a surrealistic look at Vietnam, seven years in the making.

And Dafoe himself is expected to contract with 20th Century Fox for the lead role in "Saigon," a detective mystery set in Vietnam during the 1960s, his management said.

Meanwhile, Dafoe said, he continues to work in alternative theatre, and is philosophical about his current success.

He does not see the popularity of "Platoon" — often hailed as the antidote to "Rambo" — as politically significant.

"You have to remember that this is a popular success," he says. "Hollywood is a business. And if the theatre-going audience is running one way, Hollywood's going to run to catch it."

(See related story page 12)

Experts pursue battle against rabies

By Andy Crump

LONDON, England — Rabies, in its full form, is one of the few diseases for which there is still no cure. It is also a perfect example of the double standards and the differences in attitude and deployment of resources that exist between the industrialised and developing worlds.

Fresh attention is being focused on rabies at present, partly because trials of a new live vaccine are being promoted and partly because a genetically-engineered vaccine has been tried in the field without proper clearance.

Few countries in the world are totally free from rabies, though Britain is one. The disease is endemic in about 100 countries and territories. It is transmitted to humans through the bite of infected animals. In about 90 countries, rabies persists in the most dangerous reservoir host: dogs. Dog rabies, transmitted through dog bites, accounts for 98 per cent of all human deaths from the disease.

According to a report from the World Health Organisation (WHO), each year there are over five and a half million post-exposure treatments for humans who have been bitten by potentially rabid animals. But Dr. Landeg of the United Kingdom's Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food believes there is a considerable under-reporting of cases.

If treated early, the disease can be prevented. But the treatment and the vaccine needed for it cost money. Poorer nations are unable to provide the necessary health care and this is reflected in the WHO mortality figures. Mortality rates, expressed as deaths per thousand annual cases, are: Africa 82.7, Asia 35.8, Latin America 10.7, North America just 0.5 and Europe 0.3.

The WHO has recommended various methods for controlling rabies, the most effective of which is prophylactic vaccination. In most developing countries, notably in large towns, there is a large and growing population of stray dogs, which form the most dangerous source of infection.

Efforts to curtail these dogs have slowed down or even halted, due to lack of funds.

However, some countries have now diverted their efforts and resources into the expensive process of vaccinating people who have been bitten by rabid animals. Each year, out of every million inhabitants in a given country, at least 2,000 receive anti-rabies injections. The cost of medical services is enormous and many nations do not have enough vaccine or the facilities to treat all those who have been bitten.

The WHO has declared that vaccinating bitten people is neither the best nor the most economical way to tackle the problem, and recommends reducing the population of stray dogs as the simplest way of stopping transmission of the disease.

In Europe, dogs have been strictly controlled for years, so dog rabies has been virtually eliminated. Pets can be safely vaccinated by injection, and can be monitored regularly. Consequently, foxes have become the main vectors of the disease in Europe. Despite the fact that 1.25 million foxes are killed each year, there were over 19,000 cases of human rabies in 1985.

However, a new oral vaccine has been produced which has proved effective with foxes. This means that wild foxes in Europe could in principle be inoculated by leaving doctored food in their habitat. Tests of the new vaccine have been carried out in Switzerland, West Germany and Canada, so far with success.

The vaccine uses a live, attenuated form of the rabies virus. As the virus is comparatively unstable, some concern has been voiced that the vaccine could cause rabies to occur in non-target animals that eat the food left for the foxes.

In Latin America, ministers of agriculture have agreed to try to bring rabies under control by 1990, but it is a daunting challenge. Of the 375 million people at risk in Latin America, well over 200,000 are bitten each year by rabid dogs alone.

Vampire bats also transmit the

disease in some parts of the continent, notably Brazil. Cattle are particularly susceptible. Bovine rabies takes an enormous toll in Latin America and is estimated to cost the major cattle-raising nations in excess of \$50 million a year.

Field trials of a recombinant bovine rabies vaccine were carried out in Argentina in 1986, but led to a fierce row in government and scientific circles. The Pan-American Health Organisation, a U.N. agency, in collaboration with the U.S.-based Wistar Institute, tested a vaccine developed in New Zealand, but apparently permission was not sought from the Argentine authorities.

The new vaccine used the vaccinia virus, which forms the basis for the vaccine successfully used against smallpox. By use of genetic engineering, part of the rabies virus was incorporated into the vaccinia virus. Animals inoculated with this hybrid in laboratory conditions produced antibodies which combatted the rabies virus.

The field trials started in July last year, but were terminated a few weeks later, following complaints from a scientific commission which visited the experimental site. They discovered that vaccinated cows were being kept in the same field as unvaccinated animals.

Moreover, no warning signs were posted, and both wild and domestic animals could easily come into contact with the inoculated cows. Milk from the treated cows was being drunk by the local population, and some was being sent to a local dairy for processing into milk powder and confectionery.

After the cessation of the field trials, PAHO was prevented from gaining access to blood or tissue samples from the treated animals, which were later slaughtered. Officials at PAHO have already admitted that the project should have been carried out in a different manner. Such setbacks do nothing to bring the day when rabies will cease to be a problem nearer — Earthscan feature.

Randa Habib's Corner

Spare the weathermen

I THINK we are all being unfair with the people of the Meteorology Department. What is the big deal if they announce a sunny Friday and good visibility and encourage vacationers to go down to the Ghor when, in fact, it rains on that day with very bad visibility. Let be without mistake cast the first stone. After all, when our weatherman says it will snow it does snow, doesn't it? though one week later? But the important thing is that it does eventually snow.

I think despite all the criticism and the jokes that go around and the obvious scepticism with which everybody takes the weather bulletin, we should support our Meteorology Department. God knows they are doing their best. Take for example last Sunday's accurate forecast — a real cocktail of everything. The weatherman said we would be affected by a cold depression that will be followed by a rise in temperature and in some areas the weather will be sunny "at times" and cloudy "at others". Isn't that great? So, when on Sunday morning we had a beautiful sun, the weatherman was right, as he had told us it would be "sunny at times". As for "scattered rains," well, he had told us it would be in "some areas." In other words, how do we know that it did not rain in other areas, other cities, or even other countries?

As for clouds, if one looked well, he is bound to find some, somewhere in the sky. I tell you, these guys know what they are doing. At least we have to give them credit for playing it safe. Now, stop talking of cold winds being smuggled outside the country, or stopped at the borders, and all other nasty jokes such as the one about the bedouins and their weather forecasting methods. Be kind to our Meteorology Department. After all, if anything, they have taught us never to take things at face value.

Court ruling to sterilise retarded girl stirs row

By Alan Elsner
Reuters

LONDON — A British court decision ordering the sterilisation of a 17-year-old girl with a mental age of five has set off an emotional debate — with some critics saying it evoked echoes of compulsory sterilisation under the Nazis.

But couples with mentally handicapped children have come forward to put the case in favour of the operation.

The appeal court, considering an application from the Sunderland local council in north east England, ruled that the girl, identified only as "Jeanette", should be sterilised to protect her from pregnancy and child bearing.

The girl is in the care of the council and a ward of the court, but her parents also supported the operation because she was "showing signs of sexual awareness and sexual drive."

Although sterilisation involved taking away a basic human right, loss of that right would mean nothing to the girl and the prospect of her becoming pregnant was "frightening," the court said.

The operation has been delayed until the case can be considered by Britain's highest court, the House of Lords. But the affair has already led to charges from legal experts and groups dealing with the mentally handicapped that it was inhuman and set a dangerous precedent.

"This girl has been treated in an animal-like way and, out to put too fine a point on it, she will be spayed like a bitch," said Sir Brian Rix, secretary-general of Mencap, a charity for the mentally handicapped.

As columnist Neal Ascherson wrote in The Observer newspaper, the case provoked an unusually intense response because it reawakened disturbing memories of the Nazi era, when "compulsory sterilisation in Hitler's Germany turned out to be the first step on the path to Auschwitz."

Hundreds of thousands of physically and mentally handicapped and mentally ill people were sterilised in Hitler's Germany as part of his drive to achieve the racial purity of the German nation.

Michael Freeman, professor of

English law at London University, in a radio interview described the court decision as "almost Nazi," and added:

"It constitutes a highly dangerous precedent opening up a Pandora's box of possibilities. We just don't know where we will be going next. Who knows that we will not be introducing sterilisation for social control purposes?"

Rix also argued that the decision had delivered a severe jolt to the modern concept that the mentally handicapped should live and receive care in the community rather than being shut away in institutions.

"Is the price of their involvement in the community and with each other to be sterilisation?" he said. "It could be the norm. A neat, tidy package offering no risks or efforts to all concerned."

But the argument has not gone all one way.

Jill Jukes, mother of a 19-year-old girl with a mental age of six who is awaiting the operation, told The Guardian newspaper the trend towards caring for the mentally handicapped in the community had created new risks and dangers.

"You worry about them living in ordinary houses with supervisors just popping in and out ... Abortions is a million times worse for a mentally handicapped girl. Sterilisation is a one-off thing that's over and done with after a couple of days of discomfort," she said.

"Angela's got to be looked after," she said of her daughter. "If she ever goes out into the community, at least you know there's one major problem she won't have."

According to Mencap, about 20 operations were awaiting the outcome of the current case. Doctors have been reluctant to operate on mentally handicapped people because of the possible legal consequences, according to the Medical Defence Union, an organisation which provides doctors with legal advice.

In its ruling, the appeal court said all future sterilisation operations of minors would require the permission of the courts. Girls over the age of 18 have to consent to the procedure themselves. Jeanette herself turns 18 in May.

Carter: Arafat could conditionally recognise Israel

(Continued from page 1)

Palestinians or even so that he can designate someone to represent him as a spokesman," Mr. Carter said.

Distrust between the Palestinians and the Israelis, Mr. Carter said, was "a matter that can only be overcome in my judgment by a comprehensive approach which is now possible ... through an international peace conference."

He said Syria and Jordan would now be willing to negotiate under the auspices of such a conference, a change which he called "a very significant move forward in the last year or so."

Mr. Carter also said his meetings with Hafez Al Assad convinced him the Syrian president did not know where the eight American hostages in Lebanon were currently being held or by whom; but that Mr. Assad would do what he could to obtain their release.

"I think Assad sees for his own selfish benefit any progress that he can make in identifying, locating and helping to extract American hostages would be a great feather in his hat," Mr. Carter

said. "I'm sure he is trying to send a signal of peace and humanitarianism to the rest of the world ... when he does locate any of them (the hostages) he will help to extract them."

Earlier, Mr. Carter criticised Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip and its attitude towards the PLO.

At a Tel Aviv University meeting with academics and Israeli newspaper editors, Mr. Carter also gave an optimistic assessment of Syrian readiness to negotiate peace with Israel through an international conference, participants said.

The foreign press was excluded from the closed-door session with Mr. Carter.

Professor Itamar Rabinovitch of the Dayan Centre for Middle East Studies, who hosted the meeting, said Mr. Carter was "Critical of Israeli policies to an extent beyond what most of us are, and more sanguine about Arab attitudes than a lot of us are."

He said the former president's criticism centred on "Israeli policy in the West Bank and Gaza



Jimmy Carter

Strip and Israeli attitudes towards the PLO." He declined to give details.

Asked whether Mr. Carter had urged Israel to negotiate with the PLO, Prof. Rabinovitch said: "Not directly and explicitly but I think it's implicit in his position."

Commenting on the situation in the occupied territories, Mr. Carter said he believed peace negotiations were the only way to end the tensions in Hebron, other parts of the West Bank and the occupied Gaza Strip.

By Ajay Sen
Reuters

NEW DELHI — He is stern, fairly smiles, and in his simple cotton attire he looks more like a humble village school teacher than a revolutionary.

Yet Jyoti Basu, the Marxist chief minister of India's West Bengal State, has again demonstrated he is a political force to be reckoned with.

On March 25 he led his Communist Party of India (CPI-M) to victory in state assembly elections, ensuring he stays in the office which he first assumed in 1977.

Even Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, whose Congress Party was again rejected by West Bengal's 35 million voters, has words of praise for Basu.

Fried and foe alike admire the energy and pragmatism of the 73-year-old Marxist leader who will this week become the first non-Congress chief minister to assume office for a third successive five-year term.

Basu has endeared himself to millions of landless peasants by giving them tenancy rights, while the welcome he has extended to multinational corporations and large private companies is helping

to nurse his impoverished state back to economic health.

"What impresses me is Basu's strong pragmatism, his concern for the poor and the image of a typical, simple Bengali bhadralok (gentleman) who is part of the Bengali middle-class culture," said a professor at Jadavpur University, near Calcutta.

Last year, Calcutta's Telegraph newspaper voted him man of the year following an opinion poll held among 10,000 readers.

Even Gandhi, his arch-rival, acknowledged Basu's appeal at an election rally in Calcutta last week, telling voters: "Basu is a very good man, a very efficient administrator, but it's his cabinet colleagues who let him down."

The keenly contested poll was at heart a popularity test between Gandhi and the man Bengali voters affectionately call "Elder brother."

Although a Marxist, Basu confirmed his faith in parliamentary democracy in the 1970s by campaigning hard against Maoist militants called Naxalites, finally ousting them from state politics. His pragmatism has been displayed in an open invitation to multinational and big private companies to set up industries in West Bengal, one of India's

poorest states.

"Rapid industrialisation can alone stamp out rampant poverty and unemployment," he said.

Opening a foreign-owned fertiliser plant near Calcutta earlier this year, Basu said: "I, being a Communist, am being very frank: It will be foolish not to support capitalist multinationals if they work within the rules of the country's mixed economy."

"I don't want my state to become an industrial desert," he said.

A Calcutta businessman said he favoured the Marxists because their labour unions worked hard to make a success of a labour pact once it had been signed.

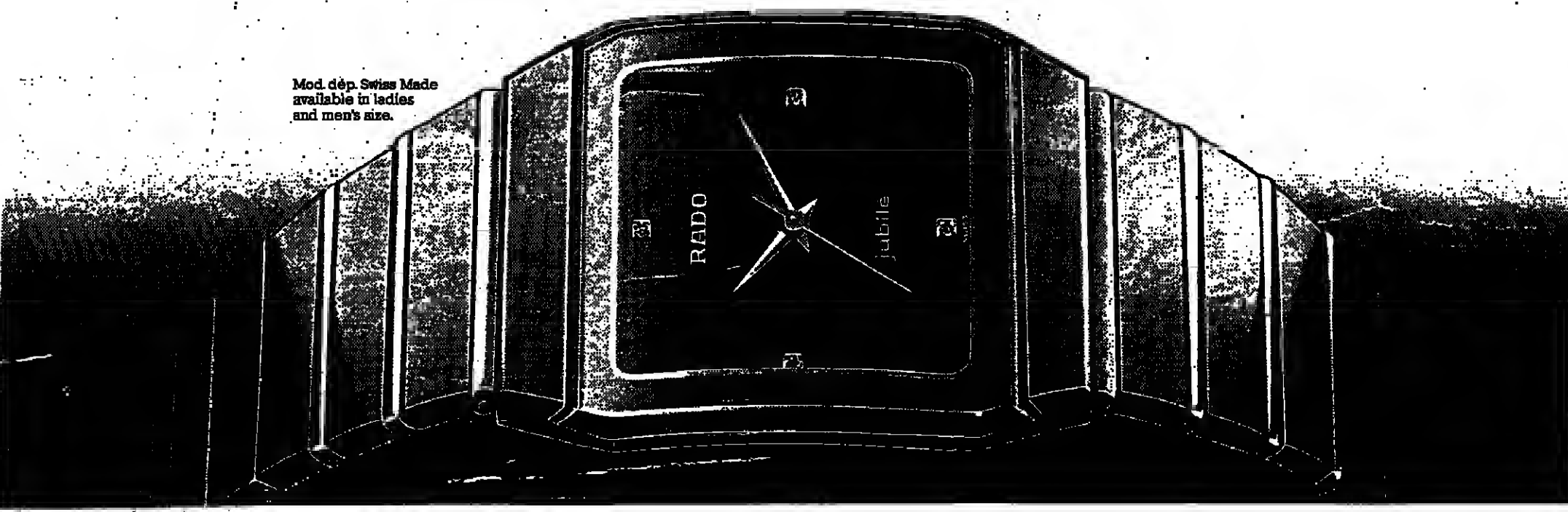
The businessman said of Basu: "He is loved by the poor, he is needed by the rich."

Basu has never disguised his interest in a wider role in national politics.

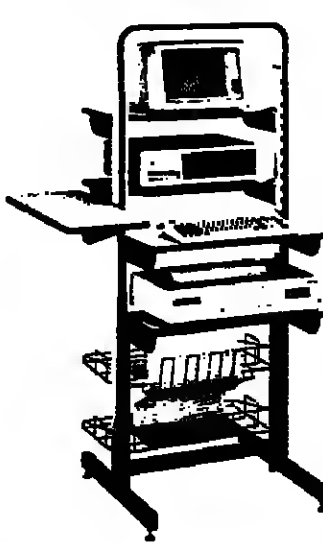
"We can't bring about Socialism or any fundamental change in the country unless we can be in power at the centre," he said. For the CPI-M this still appears a distant dream, although this week's elections brought it a step closer when they added Kerala in the south to West Bengal and Tripura in the north-east, giving them control of three of India's 24 states for the first time.

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Arab Bank Ltd.

Dear Shareholders,

I note with great pleasure that at the end of August 1986, I had completed fifty years of continuous service with the Arab Bank, and I thank God who gave me the strength and power to carry out my duties during that long period. As you know, the main credit goes to the Founder, the late Abdulhameed Shoman, whose ceaseless efforts and wide guidance enabled us to overcome the numerous difficulties encountered and to build up the worldwide reputation and the strong position which the Bank now enjoys. This institution started as a mere dream in his mind and was brought to reality through his determination and dedication before his death in 1974. Although happy with the institution he had established, he died with sadness in his heart since his country, Palestine, especially Holy Jerusalem was under enemy occupation.

It is our duty to carry on hard work, in his footsteps, and expand the activities of the Institution in every Arab country which allows us to do so, and in other countries wherever feasible. It is gratifying that the Arab Bank is now the widest-spread Arab Institution in the world, with branches and subsidiaries throughout the five continents.

As you will note in the Directors Report, 1986 witnessed a further expansion of your institution in the Far East, Western Europe and the Middle East.

The Arab Bank Group balance sheet shows that Total Assets have increased by 7.2% reaching US\$ 12.7 billion at the end of 1986.

The Total Assets of Arab Bank Limited reached more than JD 3,187 million and Deposits over JD 2,977 million; this is in spite of the fact that around 70% of Deposits are denominated in US\$, and the dollar decreased in value against the JD and the main currencies. Net Profit for appropriation and distribution amounted to JD 23.5 million, of which JD 15.8 million was allocated to the Reserves as detailed in the Profit and Loss Account. The Board of Directors has recommended the distribution of JD 7.7 million as dividends at the rate of JD 3.5 per share (35% of the share nominal value). These results are indeed quite satisfactory when we take into consideration the difficult economic situation in our region, the decrease in the dollar value and the drop of interest rates. The Iraqi invasion, which entered its seventh year, also had an extensive impact, causing substantial losses in wealth and production in the two countries. Austerity policies were followed by the governments in the countries in the region, and new wars were being fought. The banking sector was also adversely affected as reflected in its results and the growing volume of bad debts, which forced the central banks and monetary agencies to extend aid to some banks and intensify supervisory measures and restrictions, especially regarding facilities to customers.

The world economy continued to face many difficulties. Although the industrial countries were able to control inflation which had dominated the monetary system for fifteen years, they still suffer from high unemployment and imbalances in their foreign accounts, causing tension and instability. Furthermore, their economic growth was moderate and not sufficient to boost the economy of the Third World.

The economies of most developing countries have worsened with prices of their raw materials decreasing to the lowest level since the 2nd World War, and with their indebtedness increasing and rendering them unable to compete in the international markets and to develop their economies. Without sufficient aid from the developed nations, the position of the developing countries will continue to worsen and will reflect badly on the international trade and economy. Now that the industrial countries have saved substantial amounts, exceeding US\$ 100 billion, from the large decrease in oil prices, they are able more than before to extend help and aid to the needy countries of the Third World so that these countries may solve their problems, thus advancing world stability as a whole.

Besides the economic and political problems in the world, pollution of the environment has become a growing threat to life on our planet. Man, animals and plants have become subjected to the hazards of radiations from nuclear generators, to the harmful products of chemical industries, the nitrates of fertilizers intensively used in agriculture which pollute river and subterranean waters, the acid rain which destroys forests, and the smoke of vehicles and factories in and near large cities. All these pollute the environment and must be confronted through regional global cooperation.

The Arab world has unfortunately shown neither sufficient cooperation nor practical economic integration. It should exploit in a more efficient way its vast potentialities of manpower, material resources and strategic position, and facilitate movement of capital and labour force throughout the Arab countries to enhance development. Some Asian countries like China and India which a few years ago were importers of foodstuff have now become food exporters as a result of encouragement to agriculture and farmers, giving incentives and finding new markets for their products. By contrast, importation of food by the Arab world is on the increase in spite of its immense agricultural potentialities.

We continue to repeat these points in our Annual Reports, because we feel that the situation is becoming continuously more dangerous. We hope that Arab leaders and statesmen will join together in the face of the mounting dangers in order to improve the situation and remove their rights and the occupied territories.

Abdulhameed Shoman
Chairman, Board of Directors

Balance Sheet as of 31 December 1986

Assets	1986			Liabilities	1985		
	US\$	JD	JD		JO	JD	JD
Cash in hand and at banks	5,784,864,843	1,177,421	855,082,298	Deposits & other accounts	2,660,622,285	2,977,195,691	2,902,615,129
Items in transit	—	—	15,077,738	Acceptances	48,118,303	16,761,988	20,826,412
Bonds (government & other)	547,913,475	98,337,167	778,633,274	Items in Transit	3,380,215	21,780,790	—
Investments (incl. subsidiaries)	19,681,293	33,606,057	21,927,600	Capital authorities (initially paid - JD 40 per share)	33,968,000	22,000,000	22,000,000
Bills discounted	2,992,840	49,404,748	58,353,898	Statutory reserve	63,698,000	22,000,000	22,000,000
Loans	2,592,967,450	891,380,416	855,321,361	General reserve	203,630,000	70,000,000	60,000,000
Bank premises (less depreciation)	31,536,838	10,841,127	10,958,574	Voluntary reserve	93,088,000	32,000,000	27,500,000
Furniture & equipment (less depreciation)	17,298,057	5,946,393	5,655,035	Undivided profit	53,525,600	16,400,000	17,100,000
Customers' liability on acceptances	48,616,803	16,761,988	20,626,412	Net profit (for distribution)	22,442,062	7,714,700	7,713,950
Other Assets	57,569,343	19,790,080	19,475,398	Total liabilities	9,273,523,048	3,167,673,169	3,079,755,481
Total Assets	9,273,523,048	3,167,673,169	3,079,755,481				
Customers' liability on guarantees and credits (per contra)	1,699,236,784	584,131,586	604,820,477	Guarantees and credits (per contra)	1,699,236,784	584,131,586	604,820,477
Balance Sheet Total	10,972,761,832	3,772,004,755	3,684,575,958	Balance Sheet Total	10,972,761,832	3,772,004,755	3,684,575,958

Profit and Loss Account for the year 1986

Operation Income	1986		1985	
	JO	JD	JO	JD
Interest received	303,255,202	351,295,280		
Less: Interest paid	271,547,710	317,796,904		
Net Interest	31,707,492	33,498,376		
Commissions	11,080,358	10,375,192		
Income from exchange	8,169,535	6,076,779		
Income from securities	10,635,713	13,406,001		
Other Income	5,250,584	2,935,140		
Total Income	66,843,682	66,291,488		
Operation Expenses & Provisions				
Salaries and fringe benefits	19,801,162	20,312,448		
Depreciation	1,431,132	1,958,677		
Taxes	2,720,384	3,901,122		
Other expenses	19,376,304	15,107,291		
Total Expenses	43,328,982	41,277,538		
Net profit for appropriation	23,514,700	25,013,950		
Undivided profit	17,100,000	15,100,000		
Total	40,614,700	40,113,950		
Deduct:				
Transfer to statutory reserve	—	2,300,000		
Transfer to general reserve	10,000,000	8,000,000		
Transfer to voluntary reserve	4,500,000	5,000,000		
Dividends	7,700,000	7,700,000		
Director's remuneration	14,700	13,950		
Balance of undivided profit	18,400,000	17,100,000		

Khalid A.H. Shoman
Deputy Chairman

Abdulhameed A.H. Shoman
Chairman

Auditor's Report

To the Shareholders of Arab Bank Limited

We have examined the balance sheet of the Arab Bank Limited (a Jordanian public shareholding company) as of 31 December 1986 and 1985 and the related statement of profit and loss and statement of changes in financial position for the years then ended. We have obtained the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of our audit.

Our examination was made in accordance with generally

accepted auditing standards and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records kept at the bank's head office and branches and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances and to the extent allowed by the laws in force in the countries where the bank is operating.

The bank maintains proper books and records and the accompanying financial statements are in agreement therewith.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly the financial

position of Arab Bank Ltd. as of 31 December 1986 and 1985 and the results of its operations and the changes in its financial position for the years then ended, in conformity with the law and with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year. We recommend that the General Assembly approve these financial statements and adopt the proposal of the Board of Directors to declare a dividend of JD 3.500 per share.

Saba & Co.

Amman, Jordan, 17 January 1987.

Board of Directors' 57th Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 1986, submitted to the General Assembly of Shareholders at the Annual General Meeting held at the Bank's Head Office Building, Shmallsani, Amman, at 10.00 a.m. Friday, 27 Marh 1987.

Dear Shareholders,

While most industrial countries have achieved some stability and moderate rates of growth without inflation, the growth rate of the heavily indebted countries of the Third World has receded to almost half that of the previous year. On the whole, most countries in the world continued to face difficulties at different levels as shown in the following résumé.

The Jordan Economy

Jordan continued to adopt its economy to the stagnation which started in the area in the early eighties. Arab economic aid to Jordan during the nine months of 1986 dropped to JD 135 million from JD 190 million in the same period of 1985. Remittances from the Jordanian expatriates have stabilized, and amounted to JD 217 million in the first half of 1986, slightly above the JD 196 million during the same period in the previous year. In 1986 more workers were repatriated, as they have become redundant in the oil countries, and unemployment in Jordan went up to about 8%, and is expected to increase in the coming few years creating major economic and social problems. To be able to cope with this situation and to partly compensate for the loss of foreign exchange earnings the Jordanian Government concentrated on increasing the volume of Jordanian exports by exempting them from import tax, raising custom dues on imported goods of the types that are produced locally and stopping importation of luxury goods or increasing the dues on them. To encourage investment, it has treated Arab investment capital as Jordanian, made changes in the monetary and fiscal policies so as to encourage the private sector to take the initiative and play a greater role in the development of the economy, especially in agriculture where the cultivated areas have increased and the production per dunum has improved as a result of modern methods being introduced. The Government has also secured sufficient liquidity and preserved a stable rate of exchange for the Jordan dinar against other currencies in the local and Arab money markets.

In order to face the probable continuity of the economic slowdown in the first year (1986) and the following years of the five-year plan (1986-1990), a policy of adjustment and adaptation to the economic developments in the area was followed by the Government. Economic activities are closely interconnected throughout the area, especially the Jordanian market which is closely related to the neighbouring Arab markets both in trade and labour. The adaptation policy will continue until the time when the economic slowdown is over and growth is resumed at the previous normal rates.

G.N.P. totalled JD 1,581 million at market price in 1985, representing an increase of 6.1% over 1984. The trade balance registered a deficit of JD 454 million during the first three quarters of 1986 as compared with JD 520 million in the same period of 1985. Exports of potash, cement, phosphates

and fertilizers registered a decrease. The level of prices kept stable and the inflation rate of about 3% in 1985 dropped to about 1.2%, the lowest since the end of the sixties.

In spite of stagnation and other adverse conditions, the Jordanian economy was run with good management together with adequate monetary, fiscal and tax policies which enabled Jordan to enjoy a good financial reputation in the money markets and to borrow without difficulties from those markets.

Arab Economy

For the economy of the other Arab countries, 1986 was also one of the most difficult years of the decade to date. It has witnessed severe economic and social crises accompanied by political unrest and security problems, which must be confronted with practical measures on the regional and national levels.

The major factor causing the economic crisis is the sharp drop of the oil prices from an official rate of US\$ 34 a barrel in 1982 to US\$ 22 in 1985 and to less than US\$ 10 for a period during 1986. At the same time, the Arab oil-producing countries have agreed to reduce their production to 17 million barrels per day, and production ceilings of the members were revised accordingly and approved, with the exception of Iraq, which requested its share to be raised.

The large drop in the value of the dollar made it impossible for the oil exporters, as it is the currency usually used for the pricing of oil and most items of international trade. In February 1985 it was DM 3.31 and 250 Japanese yen, and at the end of 1986 it dropped to DM 1.92 and 158 yen representing decreases of 42% and 38% respectively. Furthermore, the Iraq-Iran war has entered its seventh year without any signs of a solution, and continued to affect the situation of the whole region and the world stability.

As a result of all these factors, the revenue of the Arab oil-exporting countries dropped from a peak of US\$ 216 billion in 1980 to US\$ 117 billion in 1984, US\$ 95 billion in 1985 and US\$ 65 billion in 1986. Those countries experienced deficits in their balance of payments and were forced to draw from their foreign currency reserves and to borrow from the international money markets. Economic activity slowed down, the execution of many new projects was stopped as governments adopted austerity policies reducing their expenditures and cutting down the allocations for the five-year development plans; this has affected importers, contractors and the banking sector which became overburdened with bad debts and suffered from a decrease in activities and profits.

Aid from the oil exporters to the neighbouring countries dropped gradually from US\$ 8.3 billion in 1981 to US\$ 4 billion in 1985. The latter countries found themselves compelled to depend more on foreign sources to finance their deficits, and total Arab indebted-

ness exceeded US\$ 100 billion by the end of 1985.

An important result of the economic stagnation in the Arab oil-exporting countries was its passive effect on the Arab labour force moving across the borders to wherever needed and estimated at four million persons. These labourers contributed during the boom period to the economic development of the oil countries as well as their own countries which benefited from their substantial remittances in foreign currencies and had lower unemployment rates. As early as 1982 when the oil countries started to control their expenditures and restrict their new projects, they ceased to import foreign labour, and soon after, the flow of labourers was reversed towards their countries of origin which may cause serious unemployment problems and a drop in foreign currency reserves.

Perhaps the most serious problem resulting from the continuation of the oil crisis and the existence of bottlenecks and lack of priorities in the Arab economic structure is the continuing increasing food shortages in the Arab countries. In 1984 the Arab countries imported foodstuffs for about US\$ 22 billion, whereas their food exports amounted to only US\$ 3 billion and the deficit is on the increase.

World Economy

Contrary to expectations, the economic activity in most industrial countries, particularly industrial production, has been somewhat sluggish during 1986. Major problems including the sharp drop in the price of oil and the further erosion of the primary commodities, the substantial drop in the US dollar and the decline in international interest rates are expected to have a negative impact on the world economy. By the end of the year their effects began to boost the economy of some developed countries and will pick up more as domestic demand responds to lower interest rates and higher real incomes.

Economic growth of those countries on the whole was moderate at an average of about 2.7% for Europe, 3.2% for Japan, and 3.0% for the United States. However, it was unbalanced, and will continue as a sustained growth only if the large imbalances in trade are redressed. Presently the United States is suffering from an increasing deficit in its trade balance; this deficit increased from 123 billion dollars in 1984 to 148 billion in 1985 and 170 billion in 1986. The United States current account was US\$ 123 billion in deficit in 1986, whereas Japan had a surplus of US\$ 83 billion and West Germany a surplus of US\$ 36 billion. There is also a serious deficit in the United States Federal Budget, which has increased to 220 billion dollars in 1986. In order to alleviate such imbalances, the big industrial countries held meetings in September 1985 and May 1986 and agreed to take the necessary measures to decrease interest and exchange rates of the dollar so as to help the United States compete with Japan and West Germany by an increase in exports. As a result, the interest rate on the dollar fell during the year

from 8.25% to 6%, and the value of the dollar fell from 2.5 DM to about 1.92 DM and from 200 Japanese yen to about 158 yen by the end of the year. The United States continued, however, to lay pressure on Japan and Germany to lower their interest rates and activate their economies and domestic demand so that American exports could increase. Japan decreased its discount rate from 3.5% to 3.0%.

Unemployment remained a disturbing factor in the industrial countries, especially in Europe, where average unemployment was 11% compared with 7% in the United States.

Those developments have had negative effects on the economies of oil-exporting countries, whose revenues decreased by about US\$ 100 billion, forcing them to review their positions and cut down the allocations for their development plans.

As to the developing nations, the growth rate of some heavily indebted countries has decreased by half. Per capita income of some countries in East Asia increased by about 20% since 1980, whereas in the Middle East, Africa and Latin America it has decreased.

Oil-importing countries have benefited from the decreases in oil prices, international interest rates and the value of the dollar, but have suffered a 17% real drop in the prices of their primary commodities which registered a record post-war low. Furthermore, customs duties and trade barriers impeded the export of those commodities. In the industrial nations, upon reasonable demand for imported commodities, they relaxed their trade barriers and restrictions, they would have helped the developing countries to export more effectively by the time they have also the substantial drop in the price of their primary commodities. The agriculture of the developing nations. Industrial countries should help in developing agriculture in the Third World, whether through the advancement of scientific research or through the enhancement of agricultural production. More help should come not only from governments of industrial countries, but also from the International Institutions and the private commercial establishments through larger investment and adjustment loans and guidance at a scale sufficient to enable the developing nations to achieve reasonable economic growth and settle their debts and debt services. Adequate increases should be made in the financial potentialities of the World Bank to increase its investment loans, of the I.M.F. to be more able to extend adjustment aid and the correction of balances of payments, and of the I.D.A. to give more long-term loans at low interest rates to the poor countries burdened with debts and facing difficulties in obtaining financing from the money markets and governments. Such countries should also be allowed to have more access to the special drawing rights at the I.M.F. The developing countries themselves must take an active part in solving their problems. They should make necessary adjustments in their monetary and fiscal policies, control their expenditures and create incentives for savings and investments, both domestic and foreign. Encouraging levels of interest rates, reasonable exchange rates of their currencies,

revised tax laws, relaxation of trade barriers and finding new markets for their exports are important incentives. An active and prosperous private sector would attract foreign investors and encourage them to capitalize a part of their funds and lending as investments in some local establishments and projects.

Comments on important items in the 1986 Financial Statements

In spite of the relatively weak world economy and the stagnation of the Arab economy, the figures of the balance sheet of your Institution have not decreased; on the contrary Total Assets have registered an increase over 1985.

Such an increase has been realized even though the exchange rates of the currencies of the branches outside Jordan against the Jordan dinar, our reporting currency, have decreased to an extent never recorded in the previous years. The dinar has appreciated from US\$ 2.72 to US\$ 2.91 or a 7.4% increase, from £ Stg. 1.89 to £ Stg. 1.98 or a 4.6% increase and from about 49 to 253 Lebanese Liras, representing a 414% increase. Such increases have negative effects on the figures of those branches when converted into JD for compilation purposes, and lead to apparent decreases in the items of the combined balance sheet, especially as about 70% of Deposits and Cash at Banks are in foreign currencies, mainly US\$.

Notwithstanding all this, Deposits reached JD 2,977 million in 1986 compared with JD 2,903 million in 1985. These funds are mostly invested for periods matching those of the Deposits. The decrease in Loans from JD 1,098.8 million to JD 940.8 million is the result of the drop in the exchange rates, the economic slowdown and more caution on our part in granting facilities. These conditions have adversely affected trade and contracting activities, and hence the decrease in Documentary Credits by JD 8.8 million and in Letters of Guarantee by JD 42.4 million.

Cash and Balances due from banks stood at JD 1981.7 million against JD 1860.0 million in 1985, and these balances are placed for periods up to one year at the money market interest rates. Cash represents 66.6% of Deposits. You will notice that the Bonds item has increased from JD 176.7 million in 1985 to JD 188.0 million; the increase is mainly due to the purchase of local government bonds, which some of our branches have to buy according to local regulations, and which can be readily repaid at the central banks or sold at the money markets. When these marketable bonds are added to the cash, the liquid assets of the Bank rise to JD 2,170 million or 72.9% of Deposits.

Investments (including subsidiaries) rose from JD 21.4 million to JD 23.6 million in 1986, an increase of JD 2.2 million. Actually the increase is greater, as an amount of JD 2.7 million, the equivalent of 12.5 million Australian dollars, was paid for the capital of Arab Australia Ltd., and JD 343,750, the equivalent of US\$ 1 million, was paid for the capital of the newly established Arab Capital Investment Company in Luxembourg which owns Arab Bank (Austria). But the real increase in investments appeared smaller in the balance sheet because of the drop in exchange rates.

Bank premises, furniture and equipment were depreciated in accordance with local regulations in the different countries.

Earnings

A proportionate part of interest and commission received accrues from foreign currencies. As a result of the decreases in international interest rates and in exchange rates against the Jordan dinar, Earnings before tax and after subtraction of the interest paid increased only by about JD 0.5 million to JD 66.8 million in 1986. An adequate amount was allocated to internal reserves. After deduction of all expenses including employees' salaries and benefits, depreciation, administrative expenses, taxes and provisions, an amount of JD 23.5 million is left over as net profit for appropriation.

Appropriation of Net Profit

The Board of Directors recommends the following appropriations:

- JD 15.8 million to the reserves.
- JD 7.7 million as dividends to

the Shareholders at JD 3.5 per share (35% of the par value of JD 10) payable as from Thursday 30th April, 1987).

— JD 14,700 as remuneration to the Members of the Board of Directors.

— On the occasion of its 25th anniversary, our sister institution, Arab Bank (Switzerland) Ltd., will distribute a special dividend of 5% in addition to the ordinary 10% dividend.

Shareholders Equity

	million
Paid-up capital	JD 22.0
remained at	
Total reserves, after allocation from the 1986 profit	JD 142.4
Total Equity	JD 164.4
This represents an increase of 10.6% over 1985	

New Branches

Our Cannes branch in France commenced its activities in June 1986 and is fully equipped to render its services to the Arab visitors and local residents throughout the year. Another branch was opened in December in Ch-toura, Lebanon. A permit has been obtained from the Egyptian Government to open a second branch in Cairo and a part of a building in Heliopolis quarters was purchased to accommodate the new branch which will open for business during 1987. Thus we shall have three branches in Egypt: two in Cairo and one in Alexandria, all dealing in the major transferable currencies.

Arab Australia Ltd, our new subsidiary bank in Sydney, opened in early September 1986, and our representative office in Tokyo, Japan, opened in November 1986.

We hope to establish shortly a representative office in Seoul, South Korea. You will notice that we are presently concentrating on opening new branches and offices in the Far East and Australia on account of the economic importance of those parts of the world.

Board of Directors

On 28th March 1986 a new Board was elected, and is composed as follows:

Mr. Abdulmajeed A.H. Shoman, Mr. Khalid A.H. Shoman, Mr. Abdel Hamid A.M. Shoman, Mr. Mahmoud M. Beydoun, Mr. Farouk K. Jabre, Mr. George S. Tannous, Mr. Munib R. Masri, Mr. Hasib J. Sabbagh, Mr. Rafic B. Alhariri, Ministry of Finance and Economy, Saudi Arabia, Ministry of Finance and Petroleum, Kuwait.

We wish to thank Mr. Badr Khalid Al Badr for all the services he rendered to the Bank during his membership, and Mr. Faisal A.R. Al Khalid who represented the Ministry of Finance and Petroleum, Kuwait, in one Board meeting. He became a minister in the Kuwaiti government and Mr. Saad Ali Alnahedh was chosen as a new representative.

The Board of Directors expresses its gratitude to all clients who entrust their business to the branches as a result of confidence, and thanks all employees of the Bank and its subsidiaries and sister institutions for their good efforts in the service of the customers and the progress of their institutions. May God give us strength to achieve our aim of rendering more support to the economy of the Arab homeland and all countries where we operate.

BRANCHES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD**ARAB BANK LIMITED**

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Jordan

Jordan Branches Center
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= 23683 ARABNK JO

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21620 ARABNK JO
= 21230 ARABNK JO

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Tlx 23093 ARABSH JO
= 23094 ARABSH JO

Jabal Amman
P.O. Box 2711
Intercontinental Hotel Street
Amman
(Dealing in Money Changing)
Tel 644134

Jabal Amman
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Abu Na'meh Building
near Zahran Police
Amman
Tel 629479, 829835
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Tlx = 21154 ARABJH JO

Luwaibdah
P.O. Box 9105
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Tel 638673
Tlx 21854 ARABLU JO

Mahatta St.
P.O. Box 6904
Amman
Tel 651375-7
Tlx 21463 ARBAMS JO

Marka
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Amman
Tel 891006-9
Tlx 21080 ARABKA JO

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Far-flung Arab artists regroup in Amman

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Many Arab artists, especially those living and working away from their native homes, have received international recognition while remaining relatively unknown within the Arab World. This has happened despite the fact that their work is of some importance, having been produced more often than not under critical and competitive conditions. Attempting to redress this balance, in her own words "humbly," is an exhibition at the Petra Bank Art Gallery put together by sculptress Muna Saudi.

Comprising the work of 17 Arab artists working in such far-flung places as Japan, London, Paris, Rome and New York, the exhibition has taken Saudi a year to collect together. "All the artists are close friends," Saudi told the Jordan Times, "so there was no great organisation needed. Their contributions came gradually and slowly and suddenly I realised I had enough for an exhibition."

In the accompanying leaflet, Saudi writes about her friendship with these artists. "I got to know them at different times and in different places. We were brought together by our deep sense of responsibility for creativity and artistic research and despite the geographical distances that separate us, I feel as if they are always living around me. When it happens that occasionally we meet in cities, exhibitions, art seminars, I feel as if we are in continuous contact and we go on to finish a conversation we started yesterday."

This sense of unity and immediate rapport goes further than friendship between kindred spirits. It is also felt in their work, for although these artists live and work so far apart, surrounded by very different influences, they have developed individually along the same lines. It is as if their collective Arab consciousness, their common deeply-rooted culture has forced its way out whether they wanted it or not.

Caligraphy

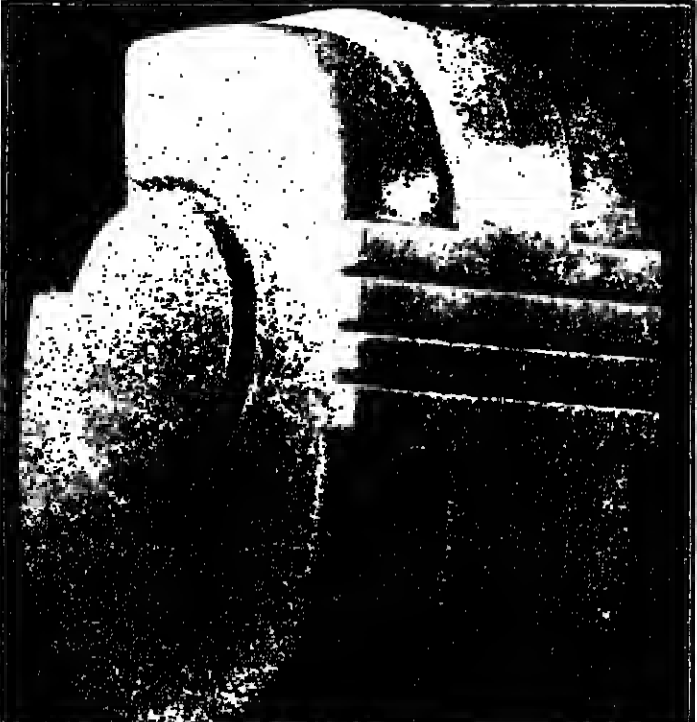
One of the common themes, of course, is caligraphy, the rich heritage of language and literature being the "real essence" of Arabic culture. One of the first artists to have used Arabic calligraphy as an element in his paintings is the Syrian born artist Sami Burhan. Burhan, now living in Rome, began his career as a professional calligrapher, from which base he developed his art. This recent, small selection of his work shows how he incorporates a word almost entirely into an abstract design, the letters only emerging like a secret code to those who know how to look for them. His work can thus stand as calligraphy or as pure abstract compositions and both work equally well.

Another very famous calligrapher is Kamal Bulatta who exhibited in Amman some three years ago at the Jordan National Gallery. In these pieces of his latest work, Bulatta is continuing his research into calligraphy. "In Arabic culture," Saudi explained, "the language is a living substance and Bulatta is trying to find this living quality in a visual medium."

Bulatta achieves this almost solely by his use of colour. By employing very elaborate, almost luminous tones, shades so subtle and rare that they defy easy



Geometric shapes of pure, bright colours laid out on top of each other like a collage with flowing black letters. Painting by Dia Azzawi (above). Cool, sensuous sculpture by organiser of the exhibition Muna Saudi



definition, Bulatta imbues his compositions with vibrant energy. The letters appear to move and flow creating interior spaces that hint at something mystic and profound.

It is to the work of Iraqi born artist Saleh Al Jumaia that many people will gravitate for his earthy tones and strange, ancient, scroll-like writings make you feel that if only you could unravel their message you would know the secret of the universe. A graduate of the Iraqi Institute of Fine Arts in Baghdad, of the California College of Arts and Crafts, Jumaia, now residing in California, etches letter like shapes in columns and blocks over his paper which he then paints in wonderful ancient ceramic colours that both in tone and texture look like he has old crushed pots as his media. As Helen Khal writes "Al Jumaia transforms the repetitive linear characteristics of the Arabic script into a mysterious cuneiform language that tantalises the mind and eye. Here and there an occasional word is legible, but on the whole it is a secret language that calls for intuitive perception and understanding."

Saudi feels the work of Syrian artist Arnaout, who studied in Rome and Paris before returning to teach art in Damascus, is an extension of the etchings of Al Jumaia. An innovator — Arna-

out has just developed and patented a technique that will greatly facilitate the reproduction of colour — he uses several different kinds of media to create his calligraphic designs, the best of which is the one where the letters break out of their formal decorated design to fan freely into the blue.

Another very established and respected Iraqi painter working along the same lines as Al Jumaia is Shaker Hasan Al Said, who was one of the first Arab artists to put forward the principles of bow Arab art should be modern, yet relate to the part of the world from which it stems. A mystic painter, Al Said makes his work look like it has been lifted from ancient graffiti strewn walls bearing on their scratched and time worn surfaces the traces of life that has passed it by over the centuries. The results are superb abstractions, whose textured beige surfaces are splattered, streaked, sprayed and imprinted with crimson, browns and blues.

The calligraphic compositions of Algerian born, French trained Rashid Koraichi, made up of tiny squares and patterns of writing across which move the huge bold angles of partly seen letters, lead to the equally bold lettering that dominates the work of Dia Azzawi. The work of this highly acclaimed Iraqi artist, who now lives in London, was seen in

Amman just over a year ago and it was from that collection that this piece, "A garden of Caligraphy" was taken. The geometric shapes of pure bright colours laid one on top of another like a collage, on which are superimposed his flowing black letters, are the link between one type of Arab art and another between, abstracted calligraphy and pure abstraction.

This latter is epitomised by the stunning and exciting work of Samia Hallaby. Originally from Jerusalem, but now living and working in New York, Hallaby creates, by silkscreening, a daringly bold patchwork of bright glowing colours that, quilt-like interlace with one another, their intensity calmed and unified by the intricate patterns that cross their surfaces. Says Saudi, "I have never seen such a strong colourist, I find her work very pure, very spiritual, the visual equivalent of the music of Bach."

Abstracts

The work of Sudanese etcher Mohammad Khalil bears much in common with both Hallaby's and Azzawi's abstractions. Using Azzawi's heavy blacks and maroons, Khalil frames his collage like patterns of geometrical shapes, whose symmetry is enhanced by careful stripes and patterns that overlay them. Technically Khalil's etchings are immaculate, particularly his black and white pieces that are full of subtle textures and emerging shapes.

ART REVIEW

Finally in this group of pure abstract painters is Vladimir Tamari. Tamari studied art and physics and still works in both fields. Whilst inventing machines for drawing three dimensional images and for topographical measurements, he paints haunting grids of subtle moving colours that tell of landscapes seen from windows, of wild free spaces controlled and confined — images stimulated perhaps by the fact Tamari lives and works in Japan.

Moving through Paul Guragosian abstractions of a jostling crowd, we come to the more figurative artists in the group: like Syrian born Nazli Naber who concerns himself with the heritage of Damascus; Egyptian impressionist, artist Shalabi Ibrahim; Iraqi expressionist Mohammad Muharrad; our own Ahmad Nawash and Sulhman Mansour, who is currently one of the most important artists on the West Bank.

Sculptures

Completing the exhibition in more ways than one are three of Saudi's own sculptures. Dating from different periods in her career they relay the essence of her work — smooth and sensuous, pure and glowing — they curve, flow and grow with an organic naturalness. As Anne Mullin Burnham writes: "Her work has a stillness and movement, immediacy and continuity. Perhaps more strikingly, it is both intimate and monumental." Choosing rare and beautiful stones, Saudi brings them to life, sculpting them with visually apparent care until they become, seemingly effortlessly, what they were always meant to be.

Saudi hopes that this group exhibition will become an annual event, each year seeing new names included. The exhibition which opens on Monday, March 30, runs until April 9.

Jordan's lesser known antiquities — charming and mysterious remnants of the past

Text and photos by
Josephine Zananiri
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — In the Near East even the humblest of rocks has connections with antiquity, having been kicked over by biblical armies, hurled by enraged shepherds or even forged by Roman masons into beautiful temples. When even the smallest of stones breathes history, Jordan's abundance of ancient sites is quite understandable.

However, as the greatest of the Kingdom's antiquities are of such monumental scale and significance, many of the smaller sites scattered across the country are frequently nothing more than a forlorn, fenced off remnants of forgotten civilisations and styles ranging over the thousands of years of Near Eastern history.

One of the most charming dots of the past is the Roman tomb, located on a rising hillside not far from the old Amman-Jerash road. The road is presently used as the major access between the western suburbs and the old airport or Mahatta.

According to Lancaster Harding, one of the few archaeologists who made a reference to the place, the tomb was probably built in the Third Century A.D. and is known as Qasr Nueijis.

External facades

The small, rectangular building stands as a solemn reminder of both human death and the inevitable passing of empires and remains a stark contrast to the lively Roman towns of the north. The external facades of the building are fairly sumptuous; the frieze is finely carved into light floral motifs and the roof once housed some quite sophisticated carved columns, only one of which remains standing. The others, having fallen to the ground, make useful chairs for the occasional picnickers.

There are three high windows and one entrance to the tomb — each located on one of the four walls. The door way, although now derelict was once carved with fine step-up architraving. On first impression, the interior and floor are covered in a fine dust which appears never to have escaped the tomb but risen and fallen to become finer, with each intrusion throughout the hundreds of intervening years.

The interior is a total contrast to the regular square exterior. The ceiling is domed in a beautiful executed soft, cup-like central feature. It is totally obscured

outside by the high carved frieze. The dome forms a centre for a cross formation in the tomb. The four ends of the cross, slightly below the level of the dome, are magnificent arched vaults and like the dome, their construction is so ordered and well preserved that it may well have been put together no more than a hundred years ago.

Unanswered questions

The cross-like lay out of the tomb is not explained in any way by the original impression of the building. The final internal spaces unaccounted for and making up the total area — little squares at each corner — were probably used as burial chambers. But who were the four interred in the fine tiny monument, and why were the dead provided with a cistern, now a rubbish filled hole at the back of the tomb? Were the occupants considered important enough to have guard who presumably used the provided water and, finally, what is the significance of a tomb constructed far from Amman or Philadelphia as it was then known or any nearby Roman town?

Although a fine tomb, it is hardly important in the overall pattern of Near Eastern archaeology of Roman sites and thus has received little attention. So let us hypothesize a little. If it was constructed in the Third Century A.D., hegemony was well established in Jordan when Pompey formerly subdued the area in 106 A.D. So then could the tomb be that of an important Roman figure, perhaps sent to the far of desert for a misdemeanour and forced to over-see tax collection or lay waste to the surrounding war-like tribes. Was this mysterious figure accompanied by a wife and children who possibly died during the spread of some plague? Was the family accompanied by a retinue of servants who perhaps served their master, constructing the small cistern so that they could live nearby and tend in death for those they cared for in life?

If from the previous century, could the tomb be that of a valiant Roman general who fought in the wars against the troublesome Herodian dynasty? Could the shaded hill top have been a favoured hunting place or a secluded area where the general retired to ponder the latest news from Rome. Was the tomb built



The old farmhouse — Bait Haja — in Wadi Seer is now in a state of ruin since its unknown owners left their residence.

by loyal legionaries who thought it a fitting symbol for a much admired leader and installed a small cistern nearby so that travellers could rest themselves and think of both the glories of Rome and their general.

The identity of those once buried at Qasr Nueijis is unlikely to be discovered now, there are no inscriptions on the building, perhaps none were ever carried out. The tomb however remains a symbol — possibly to the genius of Roman engineering and certainly to a brilliant, long gone empire.

Bait Haja

The time lapse between construction of the Roman tomb and the elegant Wadi Seer farmhouse, known as Bait Haja, is over 1,500 years yet both share the same lonely aura of neglect. Bait Haja as the villagers of El Bassa call it was probably constructed in the last century, during a wave of migrations from Salt to the fertile southern plains.

The dwelling, perched on the hillside overlooking the fertile Wadi Seer valley, is a fine example of farmhouse architecture. Constructed on two levels, much of the stately building is now in a state of ruin. The lower floor of the house appears to have been used for grain storage and possibly servants' quarters and includes a courtyard with a magnificent mulberry tree which must have been a tiny seedling at the time of construction of the building.

The upper level is reached by an external stairway, which rises dramatically in more than thirty feet of sharply rising stone steps. In the family living quarters, one roof remains — a perfect cross-vault in the best Jerusalem tradition. The walls include typical farmhouse arched recesses as well as rectangular recesses used as storage places for bedding during daylight hours. Through the passage of time, much of the upper floor has become an open air garden filled with white and yellow spring flowers whose pungent perfume wafts through the whole dwelling.

The stone masonry of the house is neat and smoothly cut, suggesting that stone masons were brought from outside the valley, possibly even Jerusalem or Nabulus, as peasant homes are constructed from roughly-hewn stones. The windows of the farmhouse are generally arched and the living quarters are protected by strong vertical bars of graduated size relating to the window arch.

Derelict outbuildings

A short distance from the dwelling lies a derelict series of out buildings, probably the house's stables and even granary. Built in the peasant style, with low sloping vaulted roofs, the chambers are entered directly from a narrow road. Each remaining door is rustic, solid and aged, when opened slightly the stone chambers reveal the green bounties of spring as flowers, grass and creepers climb prolifically over ancient stones.

The peasants of El Bassa do not know the fate of the owners of the house. "They left a long time ago, to Amman," says one of the young women of the village. Asked when, she shrugged and, after a hurried conference amongst the girls said, "I don't know, probably at the time of the Turks."

The villagers have crowded their own tiny cement block houses around the farmhouse and stables, having a generation ago abandoned the organic stone village on the opposite side of the valley. "There was no road leading to the old village," adds the same girl, "now only a few of the elderly stay over there."

Both Bait Haja and Qasr Nueijis are monuments to their own times, each representing a small sector of the past in an area where the trappings of by-gone days lie literally under every stone.



Roman tomb on a hillside near the old Amman Jerash road — a little known remnant of a bygone civilisation

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Earthy tones and ancient scroll-like writings by Saleh Al Jumaia. Painting from exhibition "Fragments from Ancient Books" held in Washington, Spring 1986.

Wilander downs McEnroe, retains Belgian indoor title

BRUSSELS (R) — Mats Wilander retained his Belgian Indoor Tennis Championship and became the second Swede in a week to deprive former world number one John McEnroe of a Grand Prix title.

Wilander, the second seed, followed the example of Swedish number one Stefan Edberg, who beat McEnroe in the Rotterdam final last Sunday, with a 6-3, 6-4 win in Brussels.

"I should not lose to Wilander on an indoor court," said McEnroe, still struggling for consistency following his layoff from the game last year.

But the third-seeded American complimented his opponent on playing a clever match.

Wilander, who is also fighting to return to form after taking a break to get married, took an early grip on the Sunday match and was only briefly threatened in the second set.

"I am very satisfied with my game. I put in the right shots at the right moment," he said.

Wilander gratefully accepted a spate of McEnroe misfires to break the American in the fourth game, then held his next three service games to take the first set

in 42 minutes.

McEnroe, who has been suffering from hip trouble throughout the tournament, launched a determined fightback early in the second set, but was unable to rattle the Swede.

He broke Wilander to lead 3-1, but Wilander retaliated with some devastating returns to break back in the fifth game after four deuces.

With McEnroe's spirit visibly flagging and his net play lacking authority, Wilander then saved two break points against his serve to level at 3-3.

That was to prove McEnroe's final flurry. The games went with serve until the ninth when Wilander's speed around the court once again upset McEnroe, who tripped and fell at 15-30 as he rushed to return a forehand drive.

Wilander took the game after wrong-footing McEnroe at the net and went on to hold serve for victory and \$50,000 in prize



Mats Wilander

money.

McEnroe, who will take a week's break from the game to try and shake off his hip problem, said he reckoned he was now around number seven in the world.

"It would have been nice to begin leave with a win, but I felt a little flat. I was a bit too impatient," he said.

Napoli poised for title after beating Juventus

NAPLES, Italy (R) — Napoli is poised for its first Italian League title after a humiliating 2-1 defeat of champion Juventus which owed much to a dazzling display by two players who are fast emerging from the shadow of Diego Maradona.

The pair, goalscorers Sandro Renica and Francesco Romano, superbly marshalled by captain Maradona, made their opponents from Turin — with the notable exception of Frenchman Michel Platini — seem tired and jaded.

Napoli, seeking the first championship of its 61-year history, extended its lead to five points over Roma, unexpectedly beaten 2-1 by relegation-bound Udinese, and Internazionale Milan, held to a goalless draw by Torino. The season has six weeks left.

News of Udinese's second goal against Roma prompted an outburst of near-delirium by the noisy Napoli fans in the 82,000-strong crowd who braved intermittent rain in the city's San Paolo Stadium.

Juventus's second defeat by Napoli this season must have brought home to the former European champion, who has won 22 league shields, the fact that his reign is, for the moment at least, at an end.

Napoli proved its worth as pretenders to the throne, going 1-0 ahead after 13 minutes from a beautifully-played set-piece by Maradona and Renica.

Maradona stepped up to take a free kick seven metres outside the penalty box and touched the ball delicately sideways to Renica, who thundered home a shot which went between goalkeeper Stefano Tacconi's legs.

Juventus looked dangerous only once in the first half when 17-year-old Renato Buso, standing in for injured Daniel Laudrup, sent a shot wide. Buso, a minor offence, and other drugs, Nebiolo said.

Ephedrine is an alkaloid used to relieve nasal congestion and asthma. Many athletes have complained in the past they had to take it as medicine and it should not be considered a drug.

Nebiolo said the first offence detected with ephedrine would carry a three-month ban, the second a ban for two years, and the third a ban for life.

"For all other drugs, it will be a suspension of two years for the first offence and then for life at the second, with no appeal," Nebiolo said. "Two years represent about 35 per cent of the average competitive life of an athlete, and we feel it is among the stiffest punishments for drugs in all sports."

The IAAF president said that the council had reviewed some cases of past drug bans and decided the reinstatement of several athletes although "with regrets that the new decisions (on drug penalties) could not be introduced immediately."

Potter and Mandlikova, the top seed, will vie for the \$30,500 top prize Sunday night. Mandlikova, who has yet to lose a set this

whose inexperience showed in a team already depleted by injury, was substituted by Massimo Briaschi early in the second half.

Platini, who is expected to leave Juventus this year to make way for Welshman Ian Rush, often seemed to be running a one-man show with many of his cleverest shots going to waste as team-mates over-ran or miskicked the ball.

But Aldo Serena latched on to a Platini cross five minutes after the interval to take goalkeeper Claudio Garella by surprise and head home the equaliser.

The move made Napoli step up its attack and eight minutes later, after the ball had been in and out of the Juventus area like a yo-yo, Romano scored with a crafty low shot.

Platini tried in vain to tilt the balance, once shooting wide with the rebound from a free kick and seeing Garella dive to save another effort.

Udinese, whose season has been dismal after it was given a nine-point handicap for its part in a betting scandal, surprisingly became heroes in Naples with its two goals against Roma.

The Romans, three points behind Napoli before Sunday, were leading at the interval after a goal by Sebastiano Nela but their defence fell apart in the second half.

A mistake by winger Bruno Conti, as he passed a dead ball back to his goalkeeper Franco Tancredi, allowed Udinese's Francesco Graziani to score, while stopper Massimo Stortogiato put his shot just out of Tancredi's reach for the second goal in the 81st minute.

Fifth-placed Milan, defeated 2-1 by Sampdoria, had a penalty by Giuseppe Galdieri saved in the 31st minute. Striker Gianluca Viali and Brazil's Toninho Cerezo scored the Sampdoria goals.

Italian First Division Standings

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Napoli	24	14	8	2	36	14	36
Roma	24	12	7	5	33	18	31
Internazionale	24	12	7	5	29	15	31
Juventus	24	11	8	5	33	22	30
Milan	24	11	7	6	24	16	29
Sampdoria	24	10	7	7	27	17	27
Verona	24	9	9	6	26	22	27

Mandlikova beats Sukova

FAIRFAX, Virginia (AP) — Czechoslovakia's Hana Mandlikova defeated fellow countrywoman Helena Sukova Saturday, 6-3, 6-2 to join Barbara Potter in the finals of the \$150,000 Washington Women's Tennis Tournament.

Potter, the only unseeded player in the semifinals, fought off four match points to eliminate fourth-seeded Zina Garrison, 3-6, 6-3, 7-6.

Potter and Mandlikova, the top seed, will vie for the \$30,500 top prize Sunday night. Mandlikova, who has yet to lose a set this

week, is 6-0 lifetime against Potter.

Mandlikova negated the 6-foot-2 Sukova's net game with a steady barrage of passing shots. Sukova also had problems with her serve, allowing Mandlikova five service breaks in eight attempts.

Sukova, the world's sixth-ranked player, now owns a 1-12 record against Mandlikova.

Mandlikova, ranked no. 4 used service breaks in the second and sixth games to take a 5-1 lead in the first set. Sukova then shrugged off two set-points to pull to within 5-2. But two games later Mandlikova served out the set at 15.

Mandlikova won the final six games of the second set to close out the match in 78 minutes.

Potter was on the brink of elimination in the final set when Garrison was serving for the match at 5-3, 40-30 Potter battled back from that deficit, then shrugged off three more match points in the 12th game to knot the set at 6-6.

Potter, down 2-4 in the tie-breaker, won the final five points to win the decisive games, 7-4.

Muguruma's WBA win tops title bouts

MORIGUCHI, Japan (AP) — Takuya Muguruma of Japan steadily battered Panama's Azael Moran in the head and body and knocked him out in the fifth round Sunday, winning the vacant World Boxing Association bantamweight title.

American referee Larry Rozzella counted Moran out at 2:50 of the fifth round of the scheduled 15-round bout after Muguruma had downed him for the second time in the round.

Moran had sagged to his knees just after the bell ended the fourth round. And in the fifth, Muguruma chased him throughout the round with rights and lefts. After about two minutes, Moran, backed into the ropes, sagged to his knees again but stood up and resumed the fight.

Muguruma continued to batter the Panamanian with right and lefts, and when Moran went to his knees for the third time in the fight, he was unable to recover.

Choi retains IBF title

In Seoul, South Korea's Choi Chom-Hwan retained his International Boxing Federation junior flyweight title Sunday with a split decision over Tacy Macalos of the Philippines.

It was Choi's first defence of the title he wrested from countryman Park Cho-Un last December.

There were no knockdowns in the 15-round bout, which was televised from a municipal gymnasium in Savon, about 40 kilometres (24 miles) south of Seoul.

Filipino judge Alexandro Francisco favored Macalos 146-143, while Indonesia's Leon Johannes

scored it 145-142 for Choi and Korean judge Kim Jun-Kuk had it 147-143 for Choi.

The challenger was aggressive in the early rounds, scoring with sharp lefts, but failed to slow Choi's fast footwork. Choi broke Macalos' offensive in the seventh round and began countering with lightning hooks and straights.

The Filipino opened a bad cut over Choi's left eye in the 12th round, but Choi continued to attack with success.

Jacobsen defeats Julio

In Copenhagen, Denmark's Gert Bo Jacobsen grabbed the world junior lightweight championship on Saturday after the referee stopped the contest with Felipe Julio of Colombia in the fifth round.

Jacobsen, the reigning European lightweight champion, dominated the fight in all five rounds.

The 23-year-old Columbian withstood a lot of punishment from the Dane's hard and fast left-right combinations. But the referee halted the match one minute and 18 seconds into the fifth round when Julio began to bleed from a cut above his left eye.

Jacobsen, 25, is undefeated in 20 matches, and Julio has scored 17 knockouts in 22 pro fights.

Whitaker takes NABF title

In Norfolk, Parnell "Sweetpea" Whitaker scored a unanimous decision over Roger Mayweather in a 12-round bout Saturday for the North American Boxing Federation (NABF) lightweight crown.

The three judges scored the fight 116-110, 117-111, 116-112

for the former Olympic gold medalist. Scoring was on the 10-point must system. The title was a first for the 23-year-old Norfolk native whose record is now 12-0 as a professional.

Whitaker's camp thought the fight would be the toughest test to date for their fighter, who has not scored a knock out since November 1985.

Whitaker opened the fight strong and took control in the first round when he sent Mayweather to the canvas just before the opening round ended. Mayweather began the second round with a flurry of rights, many scoring on Whitaker. But Whitaker responded with frequent combinations of body blows followed by lefts to the head.

Parkey stops Mutti

In Italy, Rickey Parkey retained his International Boxing Federation cruiserweight title by stopping Zambian challenger Chasoda Mutti in the 12th round Saturday night.

American referee Vincent Rainone halted the fight 54 seconds into the round when Mutti was at the mercy of the 29-year-old American world champion.

The challenger went on the canvas in the early stages of the round when Parkey landed a powerful, precise left hook to his jaw.

Mutti, making his second attempt at the IBF world title, got up by the count of eight, resumed boxing but looked defenseless and received a flurry of punches which prompted Rainone's intervention.

Bordeaux, Marseille battle for top in French League

PARIS (R) — Bordeaux and Marseille increased their lead at the top of the French First Division when they beat Nancy and Saint-Etienne respectively while third-placed Toulouse drew 0-0 in Paris with Racing.

With nine games to go, Bordeaux and Marseille are now six points clear with 42 points from 29 games. Bordeaux lead on goal difference.

Bordeaux, who plays Lokomotiv Leipzig in the European Cup Winners' Cup semifinals, comfortably overcame Nancy 4-2 at home on Saturday night. French international striker Jose Touré, back in form after months of injury, scored twice, with Yugoslav striker Zlatko Vujovic and midfielder Jean-Marc Ferreri adding a goal apiece.

Marseille was always in command at Saint-Etienne where a

50,000 crowd turned out to revive the glory days of the home team's run to the 1976 European Cup final.

Centre-forward Patrick Cubaynes powerfully headed the only goal shortly before half-time to secure Marseille's first victory at the Geoffroy-Guichard stadium for 37 years.

Metz moved up to sixth with a 3-0 win over Brest. Veteran left-winger Bernard Zenier scored twice to increase his tally as the French League's top scorer to 14.

Defending champion Paris-Saint-Germain disappointed again when it was held to a goalless draw at bottom-of-the-table Rennes who is already doomed to relegation.

But star-studded PSG has a chance to answer its critics when it entertains Bordeaux at home next Saturday.

French First Division Standings

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1. Bordeaux	29	16	10	3	43	17	42
2. Marseille	29	15	12	2	40	18	42
3. Toulouse	29	13	10	6	39	20	36
4. Auxerre	29	12	11	6	32	22	35
5. Monaco	29	11	11	7	29	25	33

Manoma wins Japan motorcycling

SUZUKA, Japan (R) — Randy Mamola of the United States raced untouchable through persistent rain to win the Japanese 500cc Motorcycle Grand Prix, opening round of this year's championship, in emphatic style Sunday.

As 11 of his rivals crashed out on the rain-swept Suzuka circuit, Mamola, on a Yamaha, led from start to finish to complete the 130-kilometre race in 57 minutes

22.889 seconds at an average speed of 135.998 kph.

Wayne Gardner of Australia, runner-up to American Eddie Lawson in last year's World Championship, was second on a Honda and Japan's Takumi Ito third on a Suzuki. Gardner's time was 58:05.278 and Ito's 58:14.183.

In addition to the 11 riders who crashed, three others developed mechanical faults.

SAN VITTORE OLONA, Italy (AP) — Kenyan runners dominated the men's race of the Five Mills cross country competition Sunday and American Lynn Jennings triumphed in the women's event.

Paul Kipkoech led from the start to the finish in the 10.8-kilometre men's event to finish ahead of countryman John Ngugi.

It was the reverse order of the World Cross Country Championship in Warsaw last Sunday, when Ngugi took the gold and Kipkoech the silver.

Italy's Francesco Panetta edged Australian Steve Monaghan for third place.

Morocco track and field ace Said Aouita, world record holder in the 1,500 and 5,000 metres, dropped out during the second of the four-lap race after spraining his right leg.

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Weekly Financial Report

By Fouad Batsoun

The following report summarizes trading activities in Amman of major European and Arab currencies as well as gold prices. The writer is a foreign exchange dealer at the Arab Finance Corporation (merged with Halim Salafit and Sons Co.).

AMMAN — Last week the U.S. dollar opened weak and dealers began selling the currency, although there was intervention from the central banks, especially the Bank of Japan, which intervened in the market with around \$6 billion to support the currency from falling further, but to no avail.

The dollar fell heavily against Japanese yen, the higher American budget deficit in comparison with the Japanese trade surplus was the cause of this heavy drop in the dollar against the yen. Also, the sentiment of dealers all around the world is still to sell the dollar. The dollar traded in the range of 0.336-0.340 fil to the JD. Charts indicate that the dollar is going to fall more this week to lower levels against the Deutsch Mark and the Japanese yen. The expected ranges for this week are 0.333-0.338 fil. The pound sterling lost

ground against the dollar, mainly because of profit taking. It fell to reach 0.5450 fil on the JD and 2.91 on the DM.

The DM/SF moved to higher levels. DM traded between 0.1780-0.1880 fil and SF between 0.220-0.228 fil. The Lebanese lira (LL) traded within a very narrow range because of the uncertainty in the Lebanon. LL traded between 1.2150 to 1.2225 on the JD. The Syrian lira traded between 1.2150 to 1.2225 on the JD. The Kuwaiti dinar traded between 0.175-0.185 fil and the Iraqi dinar between 0.24-0.28 fil.

Metals

Metals traded higher because of the weak dollar and higher oil prices and lower stock prices. Gold jumped from a low of \$405 an ounce to \$423 an ounce. Silver from \$5.82 an ounce to \$6.35 an ounce, charts indicate that metals should move up to \$430 an ounce on gold before dropping back to \$412 an ounce. Gold prices in Amman, based on the daily bulletin issued by the Jordan Jewelry Store Company are as follows:
Gold per gramme 21 carats JD 4.100 - 5.950
Gold per gramme 18 carats JD 3.950 - 5.750

Paper reveals high jobless figure in Soviet Azerbaijan

MOSCOW (R) — A quarter of a million people are out of work in the southern Soviet republic of Azerbaijan, where the authorities have begun shifting jobless workers to Siberia, an official newspaper reported Sunday.

Sotsialisticheskaya Industriya indicated there was a certain amount of resistance to the worker resettlement programme, saying Azerbaijanis had voiced desires to stay in their homeland. But it said officials nonetheless planned in the next five years to double the number of people sent from the warm, oil-producing republic bordering the Caspian Sea, to construction sites across Siberia and elsewhere.

The newspaper said industries such as the Caspian oil and gas fields had laid off workers as part of the Kremlin's economic efficiency drive.

"In the republic there are now 250,000 people not employed in social production," it said, commenting: "It would not be expedient for their ranks to grow."

Publication of the unemployment figures is a new development in the Soviet Union, where under Communist Party guidelines for the planned economy there are supposed to be no jobless.

The newspaper said 35,000 to 40,000 young Azerbaijanis would be sent to projects such as the Tyumen oil and gas fields in western Siberia, the east Siberian Baital-Amur railway line, and non-black soil areas (the less fer-

tile areas, mostly located in central and northern European Russia) of the Russian federation.

It said thousands of the migrants were volunteers but others were not so willing to leave despite the view of Communist Party organs in the republic that it was the "patriotic duty" of Azerbaijanis to take jobs elsewhere.

"This is observed in a less than easy struggle with old outlooks and habits," the newspaper said, referring to lack of understanding among the population of "internationalist" goals.

It said one of the problems stemming from the resettlement plans was the depletion of Azerbaijan's male population, as men left the republic without their wives, and poor knowledge of the Russian language even among the highly educated.

Azerbaijan and other southern Soviet republics have begun facing an employment problem due in part to the high birth rate among their largely Muslim populations.

An economist from the Central Asian republic of Uzbekistan recently said there were one million unemployed Uzbeks. He said jobs were available in factories but rural areas where the population was rising were not producing skilled workers.

Analysts said frankness on the subject could be viewed as a manifestation of the current Kemalist policy of openness on negative trends as well as positive factors in Soviet life.

Gulf Air faces falling revenue but seeks to expand routes

BAHRAIN (R) — Loss-making Gulf Air, expecting a further fall in revenue this year, plans in the longer-term to press ahead with expansion of its route network, a senior company official said last week.

The airline, hit hard by the Middle East recession and cost-throat competition, slid into the red last year to the tune of four million dinars (\$10.6 million).

Revenue is projected to fall 14 per cent this year to 172 million dinars (\$460 million) and will be nearly 24 per cent lower than 1985's level.

But Sheikh Hamad Al Medfa, vice-president for marketing, said Gulf Air intends to push ahead with development of new routes, with the Far East and Europe offering most potential.

"In the longer term, the United States and Australia are another possibility," he told Reuters dur-

ing a break in the airline's annual marketing conference.

Gulf Air, owned by the states of Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and the emirate of Abu Dhabi, has a fleet of eight Boeing 737s, one Boeing 747 and 11 Lockheed Tri-Stars.

Austerity measures will see the leases on two planes given up later this year, but Sheikh Medfa was more optimistic about the longer-term prospects for the Gulf carrier.

"Financially the company is in a very sound position," he said. "Operating results were not as favourable as they used to be due to economic conditions... but as we understand from different specialists economic conditions are improving."

In 1985 Gulf Air had recorded net profit of 12.7 million dinars (\$33.7 million).

Nazer visits Washington today

RIYADH (R) — Saudi Arabia's Oil Minister Hisham Nazer will fly to Washington Monday for talks with U.S. government officials, the official Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported Sunday.

The agency said that Sheikh Nazer, who accompanied King Fahd to London on a state visit last week and had talks with British officials, will also deliver a lecture on the petrochemical industry on April 6.

SPA gave no further details. Sheikh Nazer replaced Saudi Arabia's long-serving oil minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani last October and since then has also visited Egypt, the Soviet Union and Norway.

A graduate in international relations and political science from the University of California, this will be his first trip to the United States as oil minister.

World recession reduces IDB loans

ISTANBUL (R) — The Islamic Development Bank (IDB) said in its 11th annual report that loans during the last Islamic year fell 24 per cent due to world economic recession.

Total financing approved by the bank for projects, trade, and technical and special assistance fell to 756.9 million Islamic dinars (\$848.6 million) in the year ended Sept. 4, 1986, from 1,001.4 million dinars (\$988.9 million) the previous year.

The report was submitted to the two-day board of governors meeting in Istanbul ending Sunday.

"Due to a general recession in the world economy, the demand for development funds was low and there was a scarcity of processable projects in most member countries during 1406 (September 1985-86)," the report said.

It said a steep decline in oil prices had led to a major transfer of resources from oil-producing countries to industrial nations.

"The oil exporting member nations of the IDB faced a major adjustment problem arising from a sizable decline in oil prices and loss of export earnings, affecting their position as potential suppliers of capital," the report said.

Project financing and technical assistance loans fell to 175.7 million Islamic dinars (\$192.5 million) in the year ended last September from 269.4 million dinars (\$267.2 million) the previous year.

The report said that although there was a reduction in foreign trade financing loans in the past year due to sharp decline in the price of oil and various primary commodities, the quantity financed in physical terms of imports was higher.

Foreign trade financing declined to 572.8 million dinars (\$647.3 million) from 668.2 million dinars (659.4 million) the previous year.

Disbursements of loans during the past year, including previously-approved loans, fell to 557.2 million dinars (\$635.2 million) from 783.9 million dinars (\$777.6 million).

The bank in 1986 decided to establish a fund under the name "IDB Unit Trust" to introduce and market financial instruments in line with the principles of Islam, the report said.

"This experience will provide a foundation for the floating of other financial instruments in the near future through which the bank expects to mobilise even larger resources," the report said.

The Jeddah-based IDB was established by the 46-member Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) and opened in October 1975.

Trade doubles in 10 years

Mr. Ahmad Mohammad Ali, IDB president said earlier that trade among OIC countries has doubled during the last decade and that the figure constitutes 10 per cent of the OIC total trade.

"Ten years ago trade among Islamic countries was around four to five per cent (of their total trade). So it has been almost doubled to 10 per cent in the last 10 years. But we hope for more than that," he told a news conference.

He said a long-term trade financing scheme prepared by the OIC Standing Committee for commercial and economic cooperation would start functioning shortly.

So far, 16 OIC members had decided to take part in the scheme, which would finance trade in non-traditional goods among participating countries.

Trade tensions may bring down dollar

NEW YORK (R) — Foreign exchange markets will continue to defy central bank intervention and push the dollar lower against the yen and other currencies unless there is a significant easing in U.S.-Japanese trade tensions, according to currency analysts.

Although the central banks have bought an estimated \$5 to \$6 billion on the open market in the past week, greater attention is being paid to apparent signs of impatience in Washington over the speed of Japanese action to help to redress gaping trade imbalances.

In the most striking indication of impatience, President Reagan said on Friday he intended to raise tariffs by as much as \$300 million on Japanese exports to the United States in retaliation to Tokyo's failure to abide by a 1985 U.S.-Japanese semiconductor agreement.

"The market has interpreted various comments... as an indication that the United States is talking the dollar lower," Mr. Scott Pardee, vice chairman of Yamaichi International (America) Inc., said.

In recent months, Washington has been viewed as favouring a lower dollar because by making U.S. goods more competitive

abroad it might help to narrow the trade gap.

"Open-mouth policy is more powerful than open market policy," Mr. Pardee, who formerly headed the New York Federal Reserve's foreign exchange operations, said.

Heavy dollar selling began last Monday after U.S. trade representative, Mr. Clayton Yeutter, warned of a serious trade war between the United States and Japan and U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker said there were no target levels for the dollar.

The dollar fell to a 40-year low against the yen of 148.20 before concerted central bank intervention and official calls for dollar stability helped to assuage some of the market's selling fervour.

However, such action was rendered almost meaningless by U.S. Assistant Treasury Secretary David Mulford's comment on Thursday that Japan and West Germany had not yet carried out their international responsibilities.

To add fuel to the fire, Japan announced a record trade surplus for February on Friday and White House officials said President Reagan was ready to take retaliatory trade action against Japan for breaking the semiconductor

past.

The market's response was swift and emphatic, with the dollar falling as low as 147.30 against the yen in nervous early afternoon trading in New York, dealers said.

"The dollar is on its way to 140 yen and maybe on to 120 yen unless Mr. Baker comes out and says that the United States does not want a further move downwards," Mr. James O'Neill, financial markets economist at Marine Midland Banks Inc., said.

Mr. Lawrence Kreicher, currency analyst at Irving Trust Co., agreed. "I would not be surprised to see 145 or 146 next week and ultimately we could see 140, or even 120. The only question is when," he said.

Apart from precautionary short-covering, the dollar may get some welcome relief in the coming week when Japanese fiscal year-end pressures subside and if March U.S. employment figures show signs of strength in the economy, economists say.

"There is also a (federal open market committee) meeting... it is possible the Fed (Federal Reserve, the U.S. central bank) could tighten policy to help the dollar," Mr. O'Neill said.

While the Federal Reserve would no doubt be reluctant to

nudge interest rates higher due to the U.S. economy's persistently uneven progress, analysts said it could not afford to risk a debilitating loss of confidence in the dollar.

"The United States is risking a very sharp increase in inflation by having a rapid dollar decline," Mr. Pardee said.

(Federal Reserve Chairman Paul) Volcker is very concerned about a precipitous fall," Mr. Steven Cerier, international economist at Manufacturers Hanover Trust, said.

However, he added that such action on the part of the Federal Reserve would have only a fleeting impact if the United States and Japan cannot resolve their fundamental differences over trade.

Apart from the semiconductor dispute, the market will also be eagerly anticipating February's U.S. trade figures, to be released on April 14. The trade deficit widened to \$14.8 billion in January from \$12.7 billion in December.

"The driving force behind currency movements is the trade imbalance. As long as the Japanese trade surplus is so large, the yen has to appreciate," Mr. Cerier said.

U.S. brokerages expect more partners

NEW YORK (R) — Wall Street's biggest brokerage firms, eager for funds and foreign ties to fuel international growth, are expected to find more partnerships among Japan's cash-rich companies, analysts said last week.

American Express Co.'s board of directors last week formally approved a linkup between its Shearson Lehman Brothers brokerage subsidiary and Nippon Life Insurance Co., Japan's biggest insurance company. Nippon Life will receive 13 per cent of Shearson for \$538 million.

The move is the latest in a

series of controversial deals between U.S. financial firms and Japanese investors. Last year Japan's Sumitomo Bank Ltd. paid \$500 million to the major investment bank Goldman, Sachs and Co. in exchange for 12.5 per cent of its profits.

In October a British company controlled by the Industrial Bank of Japan said it would take over Aubrey G. Lanston, one of the elite group of primary dealers in the treasury bond market.

"There certainly is potential for additional investment or further linkups with other

Japanese financial institutions. I think the pattern has established itself here and it's reasonable to expect further investment down the road," said Prudential-Bache Securities analyst Larry Eckenfelder.

Speculation of such partnerships spread to other brokerage stocks, resulting in rising stock prices in recent sessions.

"The brokerage industry needs capital and the evolution of the value of the yen and the dollar suggests there's going to be a great deal of investment by Japanese firms in the U.S.," said

another analyst. As globalisation of the financial markets accelerates, Japanese firms are expected to turn their sights on the expertise of the U.S. brokerage industry.

Competition to gain a foothold in the important Asian market has also created a craving for more capital by U.S. firms.

Mr. Eckenfelder said that such Wall Street blue chip companies as Merrill Lynch and Co. Inc., First Boston Corp., Morgan Stanley and Co. and Salomon Brothers Inc. were possible candidates.

Polish government announces sweeping price increases

WARSAW (AP) — The Polish government on Saturday announced sweeping price hikes for many basic goods and services, and the opposition Solidarity trade union warned of protests against the increases.

The price increases, ranging from about 10 per cent to 100 per cent, affect basic foodstuffs, cigarettes and alcohol, energy and gasoline, and transportation and postal services. They took effect Sunday.

Solidarity leader, Mr. Lech Walesa, said the outlawed labour movement was "ready and prepared to take up action to resist the price hikes in line with the general decision of workers."

"This time the working world should not agree to these price hikes," said Mr. Walesa, in a statement read over the telephone from his Gdansk apartment. "They (the authorities) do not have a programme of getting out of the (economic) crisis."

"Only a decided stand by workers... may guarantee that the state enters the road in the direction of reforms," he said.

The government communique announcing the price hikes reflected its concern over worker reaction. Price increases are a sensitive issue among Poland's volatile working class and led to worker revolts in 1970, 1976 and 1980.

The ministry of finance, in a communique read over radio and television, said the price rises were lower than originally planned in response to criticism from the official Trade Union Federation.

The ministry said it would also partially meet union demands by increasing compensation payments to low-income groups in order to offset the impact of the price rises.

"The government is aware that any price hikes are received very reluctantly," the communique said. "They are, however, an economic necessity and resigning from them this year would have been from an economic point of view harmful and dangerous."

Mr. Walesa said the only way the authorities could effectively reform the economy was by restoring trade union freedoms and other rights won by workers in the August 1980 protests that led to Solidarity's birth. Solidarity was outlawed under martial law in 1982.

The All-Poland Trade Union Alliance, known by its Polish initials Opz, had warned earlier this month that it would undertake protest actions unless the government revised its pricing plans which it said were "unacceptable" to workers.

"The Opz, which was set up by communist authorities to replace Solidarity, announced Thursday it had agreed to a compromise on the price issue after the government agreed to reduce the planned price increases.

The government communique said the costs of basic foodstuffs would rise by an average of 9.6 per cent this year instead of by 13 per cent as originally planned.

"The government said that effective Sunday it would raise the price of gasoline and motor oil, cigarettes and alcohol, and most basic food staples, including bread, flour, milk, cheese, butter, sugar, tea, and cooking oil."

The food price rises ranged from seven per cent for cooking oil to as high as 25 per cent for tea and butter. The price of a standard loaf of bread went up from 28 to 32 zlotys, or 14 per cent.

Cigarette and liquor prices were raised by an average of 20 per cent, while the price of a litre of regular gasoline went up by 25 per cent.

It said the alcohol and cigarette price hikes were necessary in order to reduce consumption of the items, which had breached "a dangerous scale."

There are 240 zlotys to the U.S. dollar, according to the official rate of exchange. The average monthly salary is about 25,000 zlotys (\$104).

The communique added that on Wednesday the government would raise meat prices by an average of 10 per cent and the price of coal, gas and electricity, central heating and hot water by from 23 to 51 per cent.

The government said it had scaled down the planned price hikes for central heating and hot water from 100 per cent to 50 per cent in response to union demands.

The International Monetary Fund, which Poland rejoined last year, has insisted that the Warsaw government introduce austerity measures as a condition for receiving urgently needed economic credits to modernise the economy and meet payments on the country's \$33.5 billion foreign debt.

China's foreign debt totals \$20.6b

PEKING (R) — A Chinese leader said last week that the country's foreign debt was rising but not to a dangerous level and China valued its good credit rating in the world. Vice-Premier Tian Jiyun told a rare press conference for foreign journalists that the debt, including foreign investment, was \$20.6 billion in December, of which \$7.6 billion was in long-term low-interest loans. "Considering the national economic strength of China and the scale of its imports and exports, this level of foreign debt can be sustained by China now and has not developed to a dangerous point," he said. Finance Minister Wang Bingqian said in his budget speech on Thursday that foreign borrowing in 1987 would be almost double the 1986 level and nearly six times the 1985 amount. Under Chairman Mao Tse-Tung's rule from 1949-1976, China borrowed very little abroad, insisting that nearly all development be financed from the country's own resources. Mr. Tian took the opposite view. "It is not enough for us to rely totally on our own funds and capital (to achieve modernisation). We have to have the courageous spirit to borrow a certain amount of foreign loans," he said.

Horoscope and Crosswords not received

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



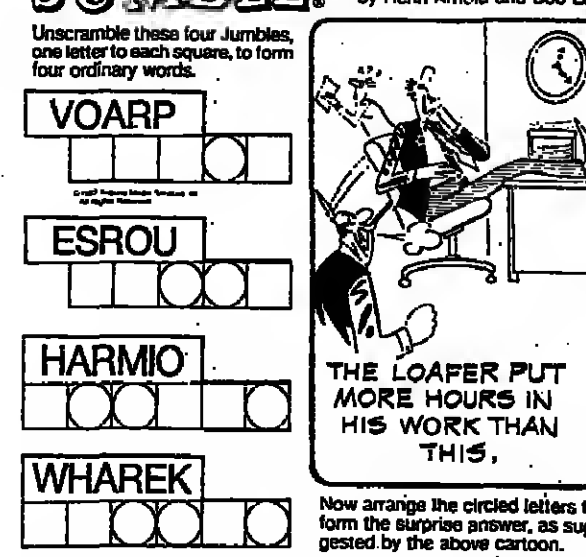
Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



Yesterday's Jumbles: FLUID SURLY INJURY BEHEAD
Answer: A stern necessity on a boat — A RUDDER

Problems cast doubt on new U.S. arms deployment schedule

WASHINGTON (AP) — Several of the Defence Department's most important new weapons programmes face substantial development or cost overruns problems, raising doubts about deployment schedules, a report concludes.

The report, prepared by the non-partisan General Accounting Office (GAO), focuses on 20 major acquisition programmes that are nearing key deadlines for approval of either full-scale development or actual production.

It singles out a number of those programmes as in need of further scrutiny because of development problems. The most notable among these are the army's LHX helicopter and the navy's LHX drone projects, the navy's new attack submarine combat system, and the air force's Amraam missile and world-wide military command and control system.

The report was requested by Sen. Sam Nunn, an opposition Democrat recently installed as chairman of the Senate Armed

Services Committee.

A copy of the report was released Saturday by the project on military procurement, a private, self-styled defence watchdog group based in Washington. Scott Maxwell, a spokesman for Sen. Nunn, said the senator had not received the report. Mr. Maxwell said Sen. Nunn expected to hear of its findings on April 2, when GAO auditors have been summoned to appear before the committee.

The GAO is the investigative arm of Congress.

The 107-page report finds that virtually all of the weapons have suffered schedule slips ranging from four months to 51 months. The most severe delay is attributed to the Aquila, an unmanned remotely piloted surveillance

drone for the army.

The Aquila programme drew sharp criticism from the GAO. Noting the service is scheduled to make a production decision in July, the GAO warned:

"Throughout full-scale development, the Aquila has experienced technical problems which, together with funding shortages, have more than tripled cost and delayed fielding by nearly seven years."

The GAO also warned the army was experiencing serious problems in developing a new generation of light helicopters — a programme dubbed the LHX, for light helicopter experimental.

The LHX's original goals have proven too optimistic, the GAO wrote. "Compared to the original goals, the current projected weight and costs are higher; the performance expectations are lower, and the feasibility of a single-seat LHX has not been demonstrated."

Turning to the navy, the GAO warned that efforts to develop an

advanced sonar and combat-control system for the next generation attack submarine had bogged down in computer software problems.

"We believe that implementing the (programme) as scheduled is a high risk because of the large quantity and cost for new software required and the potential for programme slippage," the GAO said.

As for the air force, the report said that service could not meet its initial deployment date of 1989 for equipping jet fighters with the new Amraam dog-fighting missile without using "an interim design missile that does not fully meet performance requirements."

The new world wide military command and control system, a system of computers linked by an international communications network for use by all the services, is about 14 months behind schedule because of testing delays and funding reductions, the GAO reported.

Italy delivers warrant for archbishop to Vatican

ROME (AP) — Court documents believed to include arrest warrants for U.S. Archbishop Paul Marcinkus and two other Vatican bank officials have been delivered to the Vatican, news agencies reported Saturday.

The ANSA and AGI news agencies said that the documents concerning the investigation into Italy's biggest postwar banking scandal had been given to Vatican authorities this week through the Italian embassy to the Holy See.

Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro told the agencies he "preferred not to comment." He could not be reached at home by telephone by the Associated Press.

Justice Ministry officials confirmed earlier this week that Milanese judges investigating the

1982 collapse of the Banco Ambrosiano had formally requested the extradition of Marcinkus, Luigi Menzies and Pellegrino De Strobel. Marcinkus is the president of the Vatican Bank, officially called the Institute of Religious Works, or IOR.

All three are currently living at the Vatican.

The agencies said Saturday that documents were handed over by the Justice Ministry to the Foreign Ministry.

A Milan judge investigating the scandal said last month that arrest warrants had been issued for the three. The warrants charge them as "accessories to fraudulent bankruptcy," and of contributing to the failure of Banco Ambrosiano, according to judicial authorities.

East, West German officers break the ice with vodka

POTSDAM, East Germany (R) — East and West German army officers, trained to see each other as bitter foes, broke the ice this weekend when they clinked vodka glasses at a first ever meeting on East German soil.

The jovial encounter, a milestone in the fraught relations between the two German states, followed a day of joint Soviet-East German manoeuvres 30 kilometres from "enemy" borders.

Col. Hans-Henning Kahmann was one of two West German army (Bundeswehr) officers attending exercises here for the first time. He took his place in muddy fields with observers from 19 other countries to watch mock tank attacks, helicopter landings and MIG bomber swoops.

"I had to break off work at one point to buy some things. To my surprise, the local people didn't seem at all shocked at the sight of a Bundeswehr officer popping into the shop," Col. Kahmann said.

His surprise was perhaps justified. Since the two states emerged in divided Germany in 1949, each army has sought to portray the other as sinister and aggressive.

East Germans are taught from school days that the 495,000-strong Bundeswehr is poised to destroy their country.

East German officers, for their part, kindle foreigners' memories of the Nazi Wehrmacht with jackboots, pre-war style uniforms and goose-step march.

While Col. Kahmann broke the

ice with his East German Army (NVA) counterpart General Gerhard Kunze, other Western officers were enthusiastic over chances to watch opposition armies.

British Army Col. Roy Giles, over to observe the 23,500 Soviet and 1,500 East German troops in action, said he was free to wander and talk with ordinary soldiers.

In quiet moments, Warsaw Pact and NATO traded anecdotes on army life and compared uniforms.

"At one point I was allowed to sit by the tracks of a T-72 tank and climb inside a Soviet armoured vehicle, and that would have been unthinkable two years ago," Col. Giles said.

East Germany is a key military area for the Warsaw Pact, defended by 180,000 East German troops and border guards plus 400,000 Soviet soldiers.

The new access is agreed in the Stockholm Treaty on Security and Cooperation in Europe, which obliges signatory countries to invite observers to exercises involving more than 17,000 troops.

But unlike previous agreements, it allows observers to move around exercise areas and talk to soldiers — a facility Warsaw Pact observers had in the West, but which they had denied NATO officials.

Maj.-Gen. Yegor Bokov, chief Soviet "minder" to the observer teams, told Reuters he would do everything to enforce the agreement at the six-day manoeuvres.

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Witch doctor goes on trial for murder

JAKARTA (R) — A sensational murder trial in Jakarta has pushed Indonesia's general election campaign off centre stage as a witch doctor appeared in court accused of shooting dead a high-society model romantically linked to ruling circles. Mohamad Sirajuddin, alias Pak De, appeared in court charged with killing Dietje Budimulyono, 34, with five shots from a .22-calibre pistol last September. Pak De, 55, a practitioner of the mystical arts of Java, is also being tried on another murder charge at a court in Bogor, about 50 kilometres from here. His lawyers say it is the first time an Indonesian has gone on trial for murder in two courts at the same time. The trials are being followed avidly by the public, who have become slightly bored with the campaign for next month's general elections. Hundreds of people, and scores of reporters, crowd into the two courts.

Bandit executed in Nigeria

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast (AP) — The saga of Nigeria's most notorious bandit ended before a firing squad Sunday. Nigerian Radio reported. Lawrence Anini, who reportedly called police from banks he was robbing then threw money to passersby while escaping, and another man were publicly executed before a crowd of thousands in Benin City, the radio said. Speaking moments before he was shot, Anini "accepted responsibility for all the atrocities he committed against the society and asked the Lord to forgive him," the government radio said. Anini was nicknamed "the law" and "the governor" during a crime spree last year in Bendel state in the country's south west. According to newspaper and magazine accounts, Anini killed six police officers and robbed numerous banks in a revenge campaign reportedly based on the death of his mother while in police custody and a nationally known figure. At one point, the police inspector-general was asked in public by President Maj.-Gen. Ibrahim Babangida, "Where's Anini?" He was captured last December, in the process suffering a bullet wound in the foot that required amputation. He was charged with armed robbery and convicted in two cases, receiving death sentences for both.

Robbers hit after bus breaks down

ELLSWORTH, Kansas (AP) — Passengers on a Kansas City-to-Denver bus trip were stalled twice by equipment breakdowns and then robbed by shotgun-toting bandits who drove up to the stranded bus in a car, authorities said. They then got on a third bus, which got stuck in a snowstorm. The five passengers on the trailways bus were robbed of about \$1,000 in cash and jewelry Friday, authorities said. "One man came up and stuck his head in the door, and asked if they were having problems," said Ellsworth County Sheriff Raymond Thomas. "And they said, 'yeah, the bus broke down and the bus driver went to get some help.' " And then, the same instant, the other guy stepped in with a shotgun and said, "we're going to take your money." "Sounds a little bit like the Wild West woolly days," the sheriff said.

Iran seizes drugs, other goods

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iranian police seized a total of 15,000 kilograms of drugs and arrested 16,463 smugglers in the Persian year ending March 21, the official Iranian News Agency reported Sunday. The agency, monitored in Nicosia, said most of the arrests, including 5,579 drug traffickers, occurred near Iran's eastern borders with Afghanistan and Pakistan. Also seized in the same period were smuggled goods worth 70 billion rials (\$823 million). These included gold bullion and coins, cigarettes, hand-woven silk carpets, television and video sets and foreign currencies, the agency said.

Bulgaria deports 3 AIDS victims

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) — Bulgaria has deported three African students to their home countries after they were found to have AIDS, the semi-official Zimbabwe Inter-African News Agency (ZIANA) reported. The two Zimbabweans and the Zambian were flown home earlier this month, the agency quoted Bulgarian Ambassador Alexander Atanasov as saying. ZIANA said it was the first time Zimbabweans studying abroad had been deported for being AIDS carriers. AIDS destroys the body's natural immune system, robbing it of the ability to fight off disease or infection. Doctors regard it as a fatal disease for which there is no known cure. African students studying abroad have often protested that some host countries are insisting on AIDS tests and threaten to expel those found to be victims. Belgium and India, which grant scholarships to many African students, are among countries that have announced they will impose such tests.

Grave of Tutankhamen treasurer found

THE HAGUE (R) — Dutch and British archaeologists in Egypt have unearthed the grave and temple of Pharaoh Tutankhamen's treasurer after a 12-year search using a map drawn by a 19th-century scholar, a Dutch museum has said. A spokeswoman for the National Museum of Antiquities in the university town of Leiden near The Hague told Reuters the archaeologists had found wall paintings, statues and reliefs in chambers at Sakkarah where the treasurer and priest Maya and his wife Merit were buried around 1400 B.C. Seven Dutchmen and experts from London's Egypt Exploration Society broke into the chambers, 20 metres below ground, during a recent three-month expedition. "They climbed through a hole and were surprised to find it was the grave of Maya," the spokeswoman said. The museum first became interested in Maya 150 years ago after buying statues taken from the site, but early attempts to find the tomb failed because sand had blown over the area.

American jazz quartet opens Soviet tour

MOSCOW (AP) — Dave Brubeck's jazz quartet opened a 13-concert tour of the Soviet Union with a swinging session in a Moscow ball that had Soviet fans clapping and whistling with delight. The visit of the 66-year-old American pianist's combo was made possible by the cultural accord signed by U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev at their 1985 summit in Geneva. "Brubeck in Moscow — it's a pure miracle," exclaimed Alexander Mirokhin, a professional drummer, as he waited for the group to take the stage at the State Central Concert Hall near the Kremlin.

Greek magnate acquitted in art theft

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — An appeal court has acquitted a Greek olive oil magnate of ordering the 1983 theft of Italian Renaissance paintings worth more than \$30 million from a museum in Hungary, a court spokesman said. Citing lack of evidence, the three-member court found Efthymios Moschakides, 57, not guilty on charges of instigating the theft and receiving the paintings stolen from Budapest Fine Arts Museum in Nov. 1983. The six paintings, including four works by Italian 16th century masters Giacomo Tintoretto and Raphael, were found in Jan. 1984, dumped outside a monastery in the western Greek town of Aligian after an anonymous tip-off to local police. Slightly damaged, they were immediately returned to Hungary.

FAO receives \$189m for African farming projects

NAIROBI (R) — A U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) emergency programme to revive agriculture in Africa has received \$189 million in two years of operation, the agency said Sunday.

In a statement issued on the second anniversary of the Agricultural Rehabilitation Programme for Africa (ARPA), FAO Director-General Edouard Saouma said ARPA projects would cost a total of \$287 million. Donors have given \$189 million

and expressed interest in further projects worth \$64 million, leaving projects costing another \$34 million short of funds, he added.

The programme was designed to restore food production to the levels before the 1984-85 drought by supplying seeds, fertilisers, pesticides, tools, vaccines and livestock feed.

Twenty-five African countries, mostly in the Sahel region south of the Sahara have benefited from the scheme, the statement added.

Casey leaves hospital

WASHINGTON (AP) — William J. Casey, the former CIA director who resigned in February after undergoing surgery for brain cancer, was discharged from Georgetown University hospital, a hospital spokeswoman said.

Mr. Casey, who had been readmitted on March 13 for "re-evaluation," was discharged late in the afternoon, said Maurice Mullen, a hospital administrator. Ms. Mullen had no comment on the condition of the 74-year-

old Casey, who had been fed through a tube in his stomach while undergoing cancer therapy during his 15-day stay at the hospital. Doctors removed a malignant tumour from Casey's brain on Dec. 18.

Mr. Casey, a close friend of President Reagan, resigned as head of the spy agency on Feb. 20. He was a key figure in the Iran-contra affair and his testimony had been sought by Congress before he became ill.

Former nun who inspired the Sound of Music dies

STOWE, Vermont (R) — Maria Von Trapp, the one-time nun whose singing family served as the inspiration for the play and movie the Sound of Music, died at the age of 82, a family spokesman said.

George Vnn Trapp said his grandmother died at the Copley Hospital in Morrisville, Vermont, where she had undergone an operation last Wednesday to remove a blood clot in her abdomen.

"The doctors found that the clot had developed gangrene and there was nothing they could do for her," the younger Von Trapp said.

He said his grandmother had been very active until two years ago but then suffered two mild strokes "and just retired from active life."

But she retained an interest in the running of the Von Trapp

family lodge, an Austrian style cross-country ski resort just outside Stowe, and made a point of visiting the souvenir shop-once a week and talking to visitors, he said.

Von Trapp said no plans had yet been made for his grandmother's funeral but it would take place in Stowe.

Maria Von Trapp left a Salzburg convent at age 20 to teach the seven children of widower Baron Georg Von Trapp. She married the 46-year-old Baron a year later, in 1927, and bore him three more children.

The family fled Austria in 1938 during the Nazi occupation of Austria by crossing over the Alps on foot and arrived in New York with only \$4 to their name.

They started performing concerts around the country as the Von Trapp Family Singers and eventually settled in the Green Mountains of Vermont.

Chirac urges U.S. to work with allies on arms control

WASHINGTON (AP) — French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac said the Soviet Union must not be allowed to gain a military advantage from the elimination of medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

A U.S.-Soviet agreement on medium-range missiles "must not undercut the overall balance of nuclear forces. And must not award an advantage in short-range missiles," Mr. Chirac said in an interview published in Sunday's editions of the Washington Post.

Mr. Chirac, who harbours doubts about Soviet arms control initiatives, will seek support from U.S. President Ronald Reagan for a European security character

that would augment conventional defences while France and Britain continue to expand their national nuclear forces, the newspaper said.

The French prime minister is scheduled to make an official visit to Washington this week to meet with Mr. Reagan.

Mr. Chirac will tell the president about private misgivings that France, Britain and to a lesser extent, West Germany, have about the impact of the proposed agreement on the NATO alliance, the Post said.

On another subject, Mr. Chirac said he was encouraged by recent victories by French-supported Chadian troops over Libyan forces.

Aquino denounces extremists

ZAMBOANGA CITY, Philippines (AP) — President Corazon Aquino denounced extremists of the left and the right on Sunday while campaigning for her senate candidates.

Also, the Philippines' military was on full alert Sunday against possible attacks marking the 18th anniversary of the Communist

rebel New Peoples' Army (NPA).

Mrs. Aquino appealed to about 30,000 people at a rally in this Mindanao island city to elect all 24 of her personally endorsed senate candidates.

"I blame the leftists and the rightists for the present problems in the country," Mrs. Aquino said.

Platoon expected to mop up Oscars tonight

LOS ANGELES (R) — A film no major Hollywood studio would make, Platoon, an infantryman's stark, bloody view of the Vietnam war, is heavily favoured to mop up the Oscars Monday night, watched by a billion viewers.

Paul Newman, at 62, is a sentimental favourite finally to win his first Oscar for Best Actor, for a fresh depiction of his role of a billiard room hustler in the Color of Money, after being nominated six times before.

But Newman will not be at the awards ceremony. "I have been there every time before and lost," he said. "Maybe if I stay away I'll win."

Husky-voiced Kathleen Turner could win an Oscar for Best Actress the first time she has been nominated, for playing a woman who finds herself transported back to 1960 in Peggy Sue Got Married, film industry analysts said.

Emotional opposition could come from Marlee Matlin, almost totally deaf, who played a deaf student in Children of a Lesser God.

If she wins, she will do so without saying a word on screen. She used sign language.

Every ebullient-driven limousine, at the Oscar-night price of \$500 plus tip, has been rented. The searchlights are in place and the champagne is on ice for Hollywood's biggest night of the year.

The red carpet is being rolled out and on Saturday night ardent fans slept outside the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, where the awards are handed out.

The analysts firmly expect Oliver Stone, an infantryman who was wounded twice in Vietnam, to be chosen Best Director and scriptwriter for Platoon, even though the film and Britain's A Room With A View are tied in nominations with eight each.

"I'm pretty sure the winner is going to be Stone," director David Lynch, nominated for Blue Velvet, said.

Stone peddled his script for Platoon, regarded by many critics as the most realistic film of the Vietnam war, for 11 years before the British Hemdale Company agreed to produce it for the low price of \$6 million. The film became a box office smash hit.

An Oscar for Best Picture can

bring an extra \$15 million at the box office because of the publicity garnered by the award. A spokesman for the ceremony said a billion people around the world will watch the show.

The nominations for Platoon apparently showed a change of heart by the 4,355 members of the industry who make up the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, which chooses the winners, industry analysts said.

The conservative academy has often preferred non-controversial subjects. But Platoon has occasionally led to fights and to booing and cheering by opponents and supporters of the Vietnam war in U.S. cinemas.

A win for Newman would be well received in Hollywood. His previous nominations include one for the Hustler, the film in which he created the role of billiard room hustler, fast Eddie Felson 26 years ago, the character that could earn him an Oscar this time.

Helping Newman is the fact that Platoon did not receive a Best Actor nomination, although Tom Berenger and Willem Dafoe, who play rival sergeants fighting for the loyalty of their Platoon, were both nominated for Best Supporting Actor.

A possible challenge to Newman could come from the squat, London cockney actor Bob Hoskins, nominated for his role as an ex-convict who falls in love with a prostitute in Mona Lisa, and from James Woods, who plays a frazzled journalist in Salvador.

Ismael Merchant, producer of A Room With A View, an elegant Edwardian comedy of manners, said he feels his film has a good chance despite recent Oscar victories for the British Charities of Fire and Gandhi. "The academy is very internationally-minded," he said.

Turner said when she heard she had been nominated she jumped up and down and opened a bottle of champagne. "At least I'm at last being recognised on the street," said Turner, who made her film debut six years ago in Body Heat.

Matlin, nominated for her film debut, said she wanted to prove anyone could do anything they wished. "I hope I have opened doors to others out there like me," she said.

Woody Allen, who has said he regards actors competing against



Tom Berenger and Li Thi Van in a scene from Oliver Stone's Platoon (above) while Paul Newman as an old pool player and his protegee, Tom Cruise, in the Color of Money (below).

each other for Oscars as meaningless, has been nominated for the 11th time for an Oscar, for Best Director.

Allen was playing his clarinet in a New York bar group when he won Oscars for directing and writing Annie Hall in 1977. He has refused to allow his film distributors to promote his nominations for Best Film, for Hannah And Her Sisters, and for himself this time.

The analysts believe this will hurt his chances. Another handicap for Hannah And Her Sisters, which is about family life and love among the New York middle class, is that the film was released in the United States 14 months ago. Platoon came out only last December and is fresh in the minds of voters.

Britain's Maggie Smith, winner of two previous Oscars, and Denholm Elliott were nominated for Best Supporting Actress and Actor for their roles in A Room

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OWAN SHARP
1980 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

DEAR MR. GOREN:

Q.—When is a suit preference signal not a suit preference signal? I am not trying to be funny. The problem arose the other night when, in defending against a contract of four hearts, partner led the king of spades and I followed with the two. I had intended it simply as discouraging. My partner shifted away from the queen of clubs into declarer's ace-king-jack and gave him the contract. He insisted that my play to the first trick was a suit-preference signal. If that is the case, how does one encourage and discourage?—A.D., Silver Spring, Md.

A.—There are a variety of signaling techniques available to the defenders. Some of them are extremely complicated and require considerable expertise; you would do well to avoid them.

The two methods most commonly practiced are to show attitude or to give count. By far the majority of players show attitude. In other words, the card they play to partner's lead tells whether or not they like the suit. If they play a high card, it is encouraging and asks partner to continue the suit. Conversely, a low card is discouraging and suggests to partner there might be greener fields elsewhere.

That is the only message carried by the card one plays to partner's lead. If you play low to suggest a shift, your card does not carry a suit-preference connotation as well.

Having said all that, it is time to mention that there are some exceptions to this rule. Suppose, for instance, you are defending against a suit contract and dummy turns up with an abundance of trumps and a singleton in the suit led. Obviously, there is usually no reason why you should want that suit continued. Now you can use the card you play to indicate the suit in which you hold something of value. An unnecessarily high card says your interest lies in the higher-ranking of the other two side suits; a low card suggests the lower suit. If you have no clear preference, play an intermediate card and leave it up to partner to decide what to do.

Usually, when you discourage partner from continuing the suit, he can work out which of the other two suits you want led. In the situation you gave, where partner is looking at the queen of a suit and there is no honor in dummy, it is most unlikely that as the suit you want led. It would have helped had we been given the full deal.

كسوة الحجاب